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200-plus students at MTEC summit. **PAGE 3**

Teen allegedly assaults student with rock. **PAGE 5**

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\$481K worth of 'ice' seized



By IVA MAURIN
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REPORTER

Authorities seized nearly half a million dollars' worth of drugs that were found concealed in silicon tubes inside a shipping container from China last Jan. 15, Wednesday.

The drugs—crystal methamphetamine or “ice”—were discovered during a routine inspection at the CNMI Division of Customs last

See \$481K on Page 4

CNMI Division of Customs director Jose C. Mafna shows the 2.12 lbs of crystal methamphetamine worth \$481,000 that Customs seized last Jan. 15. The almost-half-a-million-dollars' worth of “ice” were concealed in 24 silicon tubes inside a “general merchandise” container from China.

IVA MAURIN

Effect of virus fears already being felt

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Citing a number of hotel cancellations, Saipan is already experiencing the effects of the newly discovered coronavirus that allegedly came

» **MVA encouraging hotels to consider waiving hotel cancellation charges**

from Wuhan, China, according to Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands president Gloria Cavanagh yesterday.

“I don’t believe that there are very many destinations that won’t

See VIRUS on Page 4

Car chase with allegedly ‘high’ ex-convict

» **Suspect’s truck hits 2 vehicles before slamming into concrete Mihaville sign**

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

A wanted ex-convict, who was allegedly under the influence of methamphetamine or “ice,” engaged a police officer in a car chase,

See CAR on Page 4

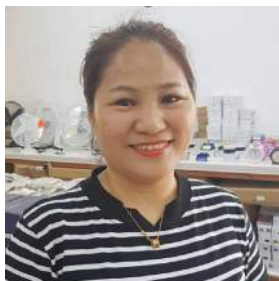
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LOCAL

Hyatt Regency Saipan will be joining the fun in welcoming the Year of the Rat.

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LOCAL

The CNMI will join the rest of the world tomorrow to usher in the Chinese New Year.

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LOCAL

The new year is associated with many beliefs that have become part of tradition.

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Local

By JUSTINE NAUTA
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REPORTER

45 Korean students call on mayor's office

The Saipan Mayor's Office was overflowing yesterday with 45 Korean students, who are on the island as part of a program that is intended to polish their basic English-speaking skills.

The second batch of students under the Asia Pacific Center of English School, which consists of 90 students in all, were welcomed to the Mayor's Office by Henry Hofschneider, special assistant to Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang.

The students are from second to the ninth grade and come from different parts of South Korea.

Apatang was unable to meet



JUSTINE NAUTA
Henry Hofschneider, special assistant to Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang, welcomes students of the Asian Pacific Center of English School at the Saipan Mayor's Office in Susupe yesterday.

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with the students as he was stuck in a meeting, according to Saipan Mayor's Office student exchange coordinator Yuki Kishimoto.

Hofschneider, however, did a great job of welcoming the students and informing them about the services of the Saipan Mayor's Office, which includes issuing marriage licenses, registering dogs, and more.

Asia Pacific Center of English School coordinators Judy Kim and Yo Hon Park later presented the students with certificates for cleaning up the

Sugar Dock beach in Chalan Kanoa prior to going to the Saipan Mayor's Office in Oleai. The students then took pictures with Hofschneider and project manager Lee Tenorio.

According to Park, the students are studying English, depending on their level of English skills, at the Mount Carmel School.

The group is being chaperoned by two teachers and three coordinators from the Asia Pacific Center of English School.

Apatang met with the first 45 students last Jan. 17.

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200-plus students at MTEC summit

By **KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA**
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REPORTER

About 280 students from different public schools on Saipan gathered at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan yesterday for the Marianas Tourism Education Council's 17th Annual Tourism Summit.

Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Priscilla M. Iakopo said the large number of participants is encouraging. "The more students we can teach, the more that the awareness is spread among them," she said. That awareness is the about how tourism in the CNMI is everybody's business.

Most of the participants were members of the many MyWAVE Clubs under each school in the Public School System, and were composed of elementary, junior high, and high school students.

"Having such a huge number of students participate is very important be-

cause this might be a field day for them, but they really go back and share with their peers what they've learned," said Iakopo.

She said it's important to send as many children as possible to the summit because it gets students involved in tourism, the island's main industry.

"We want to teach them about protecting our environment and the importance of tourism as our economic driver," she said.

MTEC chair Vicky Benavente said the summit is valuable because it helps children understand their role in taking care of the islands and the importance of that role.

"At a young age, these kids are learning about not just trash pickups but also how to be a friendly person and kind to each other so we can attract more tourists. Why? Because it helps our tourism and it is our one economic driver," she said.

Benavente said this year's

event turned out great despite being the first summit since the onslaught of Super Typhoon Yutu back in 2018.

"The organization was really great. We are still in the recovery stage. Some of the schools are still in double sessions but we have gotten great support from the business community, and from the PSS, and also from the government and it was just a whole crossover of support," she said.

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Cleanup Brigade heads to Marine Beach

By **IVA MAURIN**
iva_maurin@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Join the "litter-free CNMI" campaign of the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality's Cleanup Brigade and volunteer to help pick up trash on Feb. 1, Saturday, from 8am to 10am, at the Marine Beach in Kagman.

"Everyone is welcome to join us 'pick it up' at Marine Beach. Let us work together for the health of our coral

reefs and the cleanliness of our beaches for everyone to enjoy," BECQ's Zabrina Shai said.

Water, gloves, trash bags, and pickers will be provided to volunteers, while supplies last.

Last month, the brigade, with community volunteers, collected a total of 360 lbs of trash in Garapan.

To sign up as a volunteer, or for more information about volunteering, contact the BECQ office at 664-8500/1. (Iva Maurin)

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'Despite new virus, NMI still open to tourists'

By **KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA**
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REPORTER

The Marianas Visitors Authority still encourages tourists from China to visit the CNMI despite the recent outbreak of a new coronavirus, 2019-nCoV, from Wuhan, China that has left nine dead.

In an interview with MVA managing director Priscilla M. Iakopo, she said MVA wants to continue to welcome tourists, even from China, despite the viral outbreak.

"Of course, MVA is concerned because the outbreak started in Wuhan,

China and, with our Chinese visitors, we want to make sure that that virus does not come into the CNMI. ... We want to remain a low-risk destination and we want to continue to welcome tourists," she said.

Iakopo said MVA has partnered with the Division of Public Health at the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. to spread awareness about 2019-nCoV.

"With our partnership with public health and the hospital's prepared-

ness program, and other agencies as well, we are spreading awareness and educating our community in what to do and what not to do, where to go and where to stay away from for a little bit," Iakopo said.

According to a CHCC statement, symptoms of 2019-nCoV include fever, and symptoms associated with lower respiratory illness such as coughing and difficulty breathing.

It was recently discovered that 2019-nCoV can be spread from per-



Iakopo

\$481K

From Page 1

week, according to CNMI Customs director Jose C. Mafnas.

Speaking during a news briefing yesterday at the Office of the Governor conference room, Mafnas said the drugs were hidden inside 24 silicon tubes that were inside a "general merchandise" container from China.

A field test on the contraband shows them to be presumptive positive for crystal meth, said Mafnas.

"These were all concealed inside silicon tubes similar to sealants," he added.

The confiscated crystal meth's total weight is 2.12 lbs and, with the estimated street value of \$500 per gram, the total value for the drugs, had it slipped through the ports, is about \$481,000. This make it Customs' biggest bust since 2018.

"This would have not been a successful interception if it wasn't for the assistance of our law enforcement partners, the local Drug Enforcement Task Force, DEA, the Division of Quarantine, the U.S. Homeland Security Investigation, and the U.S. Coast Guard Investigative Unit," Mafnas said.

Shipped from China

When asked about the consignee, Mafnas said that while Customs has the name, they will not be able to provide any names of businesses or individuals as the investigation is still ongoing. The only information the director gave is that the consignee is a Chinese national, and is not on the island.

The shipper, on the other hand, according to Mafnas, is known in the law enforcement community due to his drug business.

"I am informed that he [consignee] is banned from entering [the] U.S. He used to live here, is banned from entering the U.S.A. or any territory, so he's operating his business out of China," the director said.

"We do have his name and, with the partnership of our federal law enforcement... we can push to inform the Chinese authorities of this person so the China government can do something about it. Just to stop him from conducting his business or sending this kind of stuff over to the CNMI," he added.

'It's better to stop at the ports'

Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios, who was also at yesterday's news briefing, said the intercepted contraband explains why Gov. Ralph DLG Torres has identified solving the drug problem in the Commonwealth as a major priority, inclusive of enforcement.

"The Commonwealth community continues to see the tragedies that methamphetamine has done to our people in our community. We still deal with it today. We see families broken up, folks continue that tragedy that continues to beset our community," said Palacios.

"It has been a challenge and it will continue to be a challenge, but today, we want to extend our appreciation to all our enforcement agencies, particularly Customs, DEA, and our local drug enforcement under DPS," he added.

Palacios added had the drugs gone out to the streets and into the communities, addressing the impact would be "exponentially higher." He highlighted costs of rehabilitation programs and services that are provided to members of the community who have become victims of the drug pandemic.

cancellation charges as this is due to a somewhat unforeseen emergency.

"We are just hoping that the virus will be contained sooner than later," said Cavanagh, who is also the MVA board's vice chair.

Commonwealth Ports Authority board chair Kimberlyn King-Hinds said Wednesday night that CPA is trying to set up a meeting with the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. right now to assist CPA with setting up the right processes and procedures for passenger screening.

According to CHCC Wednesday, its preparedness staff at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International

"I don't think I need to continue to talk about it because we all know what happens if these drugs have gone out to our community. I'm not talking about just the streets. I am talking about families, young people, fathers, and mothers that have been impacted by the scourge of drug addiction in our community."

Appreciation

Finance Secretary David Atalig joined Palacios and Mafnas in expressing appreciation to Customs and all enforcement officers who were part of the interception.

"I'm very proud of our Customs officers, our Customer Services Division, for the hard work of our Customs officers in doing what they need to do, [which] is [to] protect our borders and intercept contrabands like this from the port."

"It helps our community overall," Atalig said. "Like Director Mafnas mentioned, it is cheaper because we intercepted at the ports. We stopped it. We don't have to worry about public safety, going out and trying to prevent this from getting further in the street and the community."

Message to drug dealers

Mafnas wants drug dealers out there to know that Customs is not alone at the ports. "We have many law enforcement partners, both with the local and with the federal government law enforcement. We're not alone. Whenever there's a target, we call them up to assist us in doing all the inspection. The more, the better enforcement."

"We also appreciate when the concerned private citizen would give a call and say, 'I heard about this'... We don't take that lightly, we take it seriously and take the information and look into it," he added.

Airport is working with Customs and Quarantine to screen incoming passengers.

China reported Monday a sharp rise in the number of people infected with the new coronavirus. The outbreak of viral pneumonia started in the central city of Wuhan, according to the Associated Press.

AP said the outbreak has put other countries on alert as millions of Chinese travel for the Lunar New Year holidays.

At least a half-dozen countries in Asia and three U.S. airports have started screening incoming airline passengers from central China.

son to person thorough coughing and sneezing, similar to how the flu is spread.

The spread of the virus can be combated with good hygiene prac-

CAR

From Page 1

hitting two vehicles before his pickup truck slammed into the concrete Mihaville Estate sign in Garapan Wednesday afternoon.

The suspect, Juan Delos Reyes Tydingco, then fled on foot, but police officer later arrested him.

In a separate incident in San Jose Saturday morning, the 43-year-old Tydingco allegedly shoved an Office of the Attorney General investigator who was about to handcuff him to serve an outstanding bench warrant for his arrest.

As a result, the OAG investigator suffered a minor cut on his right middle finger caused by the handcuffs.

Tydingco was brought before Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo yesterday afternoon for a bail hearing in the traffic and criminal cases.

A \$10,000 and \$5,000 cash bail were imposed on the defendant in the traffic and criminal cases, respectively.

In the traffic case, Tydingco was charged with fleeing or attempting to elude a police officer, reckless driving, causing accidents, and driving while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

In the criminal case, the defendant was charged with resisting arrest and escape.

Highway Patrol investigator Norris Kwon stated in the traffic complaint that police officer Michael Langdon was doing routine patrol along Chalan Pale Arnold in Chalan Laulau last Wednesday at 2:24pm when he observed a red Toyota Tacoma pickup truck approaching from the southbound lane with no front license plate.

Langdon activated his emergency lights and siren and made a U-turn in an attempt to stop the truck. The officer then saw that the truck had a rear license plate.

The truck continued to travel south, then made a right turn to Chalan Monsignor Guerrero Road, and sped off.

The truck then made a right turn to north of Beach Road at a speed between 60 miles per hour to 80mph, passing other vehicles left to right, and even using shoulder lanes.

The truck used the opposite lane in passing vehicles traveling in the same direction. At one point, near Saipan Computer Services, the truck was facing head on with a school bus that was traveling in the opposite direction.

The truck then made a right turn on Kopa Di Oru Street by the Horiguchi Building in Garapan, then made a left turn on Chalan Pale Arnold Road.

The truck continued to travel north, then collided with two vehicles at the four-way traffic signal light intersection leading to China Town. The

tices like washing one's hands often with soap and water for at least, 20 seconds, using an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available, covering your mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing, and avoiding contact with sick people.

two vehicles were damaged, but the truck continued to travel north, then attempted to turn right to the intersection to upper MIHA, but lost control and slammed into the concrete Mihaville sign. Tydingco, who was the only occupant of the truck, got out of the truck and fled to a nearby house. Langdon himself got out of his patrol car, gave chase, and arrested Tydingco. The officers then brought the suspect to the Commonwealth Health Center after he complained of pain to his abdomen.

Tydingco allegedly confessed to four police officers and OAG investigators that he had smoked a lot of methamphetamine earlier that day.

The defendant was then served with an outstanding arrest and bench warrants. He was later detained at the Department of Corrections.

According to court records, Tydingco pleaded guilty on March 21, 2017, to illegal possession of a controlled substance and was remanded to DOC. Tydingco was released from DOC on Sept. 24, 2018, and was placed under supervised probation.

Last May 3, the CNMI Probation Office filed a petition to revoke Tydingco's probation for violating the condition of his probation. Tydingco, however, failed to appear in court last Aug. 12. This prompted the court to issue a bench warrant in the amount of \$1,000.

The court held in abeyance the \$1,000 bench warrant and set a an arraignment hearing last Sept. 12. Tydingco, however, did not show up. The judge then issued a bench warrant for his arrest.

In the criminal case, OAG Investigative Division investigator Ikluk Masayos stated in his report that he was driving south on Beach Road last Saturday at 8:50am and had just reached the Saipan World Resort when he spotted Tydingco's Tacoma truck traveling north in the opposite direction.

Aware of the bench warrant against Tydingco, Masayos made a U-turn and followed the truck until it parked in front of the Blue Saipan Garden, which is a motel in San Jose.

Masayos parked directly behind the truck, approached the driver's side, identified himself as an OAG investigator, and instructed Tydingco to turn off the truck and step out.

Masayos said Tydingco explained that he had already spoken to an OAG investigator about his case. Masayos told him that he has an outstanding bench warrant.

As Masayos was placing the handcuffs on Tydingco's hands, the defendant turned around and shoved the investigator on the chest. Masayos almost fell backward to the ground. Tydingco then ran away.

Masayos, who had a minor injury on his right middle finger due to the handcuffs, remained in his vehicle and waited for assistance from police and his chief.

VIRUS

From Page 1

be affected because of the coronavirus," said Cavanagh.

Right now, the effect is minimal, she said, but it is impossible to predict how high the cancellation numbers will grow. She said screening is being done at China airports prior to boarding so cancellations are all very last-minute.

Cavanagh said the Marianas Visitors Authority is issuing a letter to encourage HANMI and other non-HANMI hotels to consider waiving

Teenager allegedly assaults student with rock

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

A teenager allegedly repeatedly hit the head of a fellow male student with a rock and punched him on the face at a school on Rota Tuesday afternoon.

A video clip of the alleged assault has been circulating on social media. Police investigators were able to obtain a copy of the video clip.

Roddy Masga Maratita, 18, a student, was arrested for assault with a dangerous weapon, and assault and battery.

The victim, a 17-year-old student, was brought to the Rota Health Center for treatment and assessment for swelling and an open wound on the head he sustained during the assault.

At a hearing Wednesday, Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho imposed a \$1,000 cash bail and \$9,000 in unsecured bond on Maratita.

According to police detective Chloe B. Hocog in the complaint, a student informed a school resource officer last Tuesday at 1:02pm about an adult student, later identified as Maratita, assaulting a minor with a rock.

A witness told police that Maratita, armed with a rock, walked toward the victim and hit him on the right side of his head. Other students held Maratita to calm him down. Witnesses observed that the victim's head was already bleeding, but the defendant was still being aggressive at the victim.

Investigation personnel later released Maratita from the school's custody to his parent.

At 1:48pm on the same day, police officers spotted Maratita aboard his mother's car. The officers pulled over the vehicle and arrested him.

Hocog said that Maratita later admitted during an interview at the Rota Department of Public Safety to assaulting the minor with a rock and repeatedly punching him in the face.

The report did not mention what triggered the assault.

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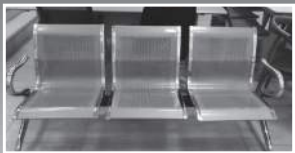
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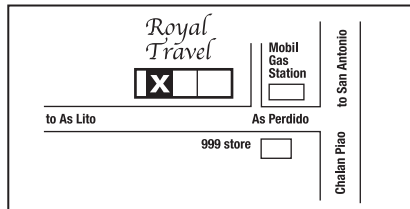
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MR's Ron Sablan: We have always been underfunded

By **KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA**
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI Medical Referral program under the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. is so underfunded that it's already in deficit right at the starting gate, according to program director Ron Sablan.

He blames this extreme un-

derfunding for the program for its over \$15-million deficit. He pointed out that Medical Referral initially asks for a budget of \$18 million for a fiscal year but eventually only gets a little over \$2 million.

"We are blamed a lot for being in deficit [but] the misunderstanding on this deficit issue [is that] we become deficit [on] the first month of the fiscal year. Normally we get budgeted at, most probably, about 22% of what we requested, so we get into deficit right away," he said.

Yet last year alone, the CNMI Medical Referral program sent out about 1,997 patients, costing about \$15 million, he said.

"Why we're never funded for the amount we requested [is] beyond our control. But we stay within data that we use for all these years. And when I submit my budget, it is basically based on those data, giving a little room because we never know who's going to get sick or how many people we have to send out," he said.

Fortunately, despite being underfunded, Sablan said the program has been able to continue to refer patients for medical treatments because of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres' re-programming authority.

"The governor has 100% reprogramming authority under medical referral. So he's able to transfer funds from other departments to cover the cost, but again, if it was properly budgeted, the governor wouldn't have to do that, and would not hamper other departments and their budgets. But realistically, it's never happened. We've always been underfunded," he said.

He assured that the program is trying its best to minimize costs by reviewing whether the patient is really in need of a referral or not, but it doesn't cut costs significantly.

"We try to work as best as we can to see whether this patient has been referred to something that is not necessary," Sablan said.

Sablan told reporters that their funding covers costs for indigent patients up to an \$80,000 limit, or covers the percentage of what the referred patient's insurance doesn't, and personnel.

"Our main purpose is to send people out based on medical conditions that cannot be provided locally. That's what it costs to do this and that's what we're bound to do," he said.

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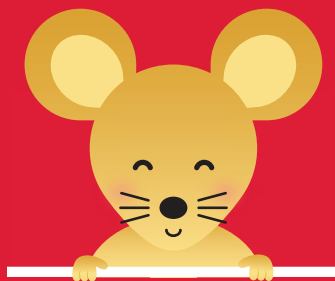


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OPA: Issue with DPL tracking system is resolved

By IVA MAURIN
iva_maurin@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

In 2018, the Office of the Public Auditor recommended that the Department of Public Lands develop a tracking system to monitor submission of required documents when due. Fast forward to 2020, each DPL division now has one.

The recommendation for a document tracking system came after OPA's findings in its 2018 audit of the management of land leases and temporary permits, that the DPL did not closely monitor compliance with lease agreements and permits.

According to the report released by the OPA last week, DPL has updated its master list for all leases, permits, and agricultural grazing permits to include pertinent documents and timeframes for renewals.

Semi-annual random audits are also now being conducted by an internal auditor to verify compliance to monitor each division's progress. Non-compliances are reported by the internal auditor to DPL's Compliance Division.

"Each division has a tracking system in place to monitor due dates and submission dates of required documents, account statuses, and incoming/outgoing correspondences for all leases, temporary occupancy agreements, and AGP," the report stated.

Plans to improve the DPL tracking system are also in place "to allow its system to flag leases, TOAs, and AGPs 90 days prior to expiration to ensure timely renewals, document submissions, and inspections."

OPA, in its 2018 finding, stressed that "untimely submissions of, or complete failure to submit, required appraisals and financial documents may result in potential loss of revenue," adding that that is a concern as the documents dictate the annual base rent and additional rent for lessees and permittees.

In a follow-up meeting last December, OPA said that DPL has made significant improvements to its tracking system to track and monitor the status of leases and permits, including monitoring

due dates for submission of required documents.

"DPL's tracking system also includes the names of

the staff assigned to each lease and permits. The assigned staff is responsible for ensuring that all required

documents are submitted when due and prepares notices for those in violation of their contract terms and con-

ditions," OPA's most recent report read.

In addition, a Microsoft Access database is also being

developed by DPL's internal auditor to ensure a more efficient monitoring and tracking system.



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Karidat helps families pay rent

Catholic Charities USA has given the Karidat Social Services a grant of \$233,948 that will be used to provide rental assistance to families who remain displaced and homeless after Super Typhoon Yutu hit the CNMI in

October 2018.

The grant will run for three years.

"With this grant, it will provide eligible applicants a three-month rental assistance in order to put them in a place where it is safe while they are working

on repairing their house," said acting Karidat executive director Judith Pangelinan.

In an interview with the disaster case manager Emma Corpuz, she stressed that the families or individuals that avail of this grant must be employed so that after the three-month assistance is up, the

families will be able to support themselves.

Beneficiaries must not be a recipient of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's temporary housing program called VALOR, FEMA's permanent housing assistance, or other federal programs.

Karidat ask that the appli-

cants provide employment verification, two latest check stubs, and other income verifications—if you receive social security or disability benefits.

"It's hard, especially if you are supporting an x amount of people and you're still living in a tent or live somewhere where it's not safe. How can you save for an apartment if you have a lot of obligations already?" asked Corpuz.

"We're so grateful and happy to be able to assist those that are seeking assistance from us," said Pangelinan.

According to Corpuz, they have already helped one client so far.

Corpuz was the disaster case manager for the VALOR program for about 6 months until she got employed into Karidat Social Service on Oct. 15, 2019. *(Justine Nauta)*

Making NMI Judiciary more accessible

Over 200 participants from the CNMI Judiciary, CNMI Bar Association, CNMI-based interpreters, and other government agencies went through a six-day language access training.

Debi S. Tulang-De Silva, program director of the Hawaii State Judiciary's Office on Equality and Access to the Courts, led the training that took place from Jan. 12 to 17.

Among those who attended were representatives of the U.S. District Court for the NMI, the Office of the Attorney General, the Office of the Public Defender, the Office of Personnel Management, Micronesian Legal Services Corp., Department of Public Safety, Department of Public Lands, Department of Labor, Department of Corrections, Department of Community and Cultural Affairs, Commonwealth Utilities Corp., Commonwealth Ports Authority, and Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.

The training covered topics that included language access laws and the impact of mandates, integration of language access for services, and working effectively with interpreters.

The NMI Judiciary's Language Access Plan and Policy is consistent with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, and national origin. It is the policy of the Judiciary to provide timely, meaningful, and equal access to programs, services, and information to Limited English Proficient and Deaf and Hard of Hearing persons. Covering standards for qualified interpreters and translators, trained court staff and judges, LAPP was made possible through the efforts of the CNMI Judiciary, the CNMI Bar Association, the Office of the Attorney General, the Office of the Public Defender, and other entities. *(PR)*

May this new year
bring you prosperity,
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*Gong Xi
Fa Cai!*

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APAFS joins the UN PRI as a 'network supporter'

H A G A T N A ,
Guam—The Asia Pacific Association for Fiduciary Studies, or APAFS, has joined the United Nations Principles for Responsible Investment organization as a "network supporter" for its role in promoting responsible investment.

Network supporters are non-profit peer organizations that perform an important role in raising awareness of responsible investment

within the investment community and that support the inclusion of responsible investment in the investment processes of institutional investors. APAFS is one of 53 network supporters worldwide.

UN PRI is the leading advocate of responsible investment worldwide, working to understand the implications of environmental, social and corporate governance factors for investment, and to support its international network of investor signatories in incorporating these factors into their investment decisions. UN PRI encourages these actions to improve returns and better



Roland



Reynolds

manage risks.

UN PRI (www.unpri.org) was formed in 2005 when then-UN Secretary General Kofi Annan asked a group of the world's largest institutional investors to help draft the Principles for Responsible Investment. The 20 investors in this group—drawn from institutions in 12 countries—were supported by an additional 70 investment, governmental, social and environmental experts. UN PRI currently represents over \$40 trillion in assets globally.

"We are very pleased to welcome [APAFS] as a network supporter and we look forward to working with APAFS and its institutional fund membership," said Fiona Reynolds, CEO of UN PRI. "APAFS's leadership provides a model for other institutional fund sponsor associations. It takes a forward-thinking organization to acknowledge the risks posed by the management of environmental, social and governance issues, and I applaud the commitment of APAFS to actively face these

risks."

APAFS (www.apafs.org) is a Guam-based 501c3 association whose membership includes institutional investment funds throughout the Pacific.

Its mission is to promote prudent stewardship through fiduciary education and to lead advocacy efforts on behalf of its membership. "Becoming the UN PRI network supporter

in our region was a logical step for our advocacy of prudent stewardship. Inclusion of environmental, social and governance factors in institutional funds management is of

particular importance in our region due to the fragile nature of our Small Island Developing States ecosystems," said Daniel Roland, APAFS executive director. **(PR)**

Gong Xi Fa Cai

FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
January 24, 2020 (Fri) Chinese New Year's Eve Dinner Buffet 5:30pm - 9:00pm (Last Order 8:30pm) Reg. \$40 Ad/\$20 Ch	January 25, 2020 (Sat) Chinese New Year Dinner Buffet 5:30pm - 9:00pm (Last Order 8:30pm) Reg. \$40 Ad/\$20 Ch	January 26, 2020 (Sun) Chinese New Year Brunch Buffet 11:00am - 2:00pm (Last Order 1:30pm) Reg. \$32 Ad

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Ex-DYS social worker sexual harassment suit is dismissed

The federal court dismissed Wednesday a sexual harassment lawsuit filed by a former social worker in the Child Protection Unit of the Division of Youth Services against her then-supervisor after she failed to appear in court in response to a court order.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona dismissed the case without prejudice, which means that the former social worker may re-file the case.

The complainant in the case failed to show up at a show cause hearing, prompting the dismissal order.

The judge also noted that the plaintiff did not file a response to her order to show cause.

Last Jan. 7, the plaintiff failed to appear at the hearing. This prompted Manglona to issue the second show cause order against the former social worker.

The show cause order directed the plaintiff to appear Wednesday to explain why her lawsuit should not be dismissed for failure to prosecute. Manglona said the plaintiff may appear via telephone and indicated at that time that she would dismiss the case if the woman fails to show up.

Last Nov. 15, the plaintiff appeared via telephone at a status conference. The court then ordered her to submit a report summarizing her efforts to hire an attorney.

Another status conference was then set for last Jan. 7.

Manglona said the court never received a written report from the plaintiff and that almost a year has passed since she filed her complaint, and she has still not served the defendants with the complaint.

The court issued the first show cause order last July.

The complainant was left with no lawyer after her first one, Joseph E. Horey, moved to withdraw as counsel last March.

Horey then agreed with Manglona that the complaint was not served yet on defendant Julian R. Camacho and co-defendants. Aside from plaintiff's then-supervisor Camacho, the complainant named as co-defendants the CNMI government, and the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs' DYS. She demanded unspecified damages.

She worked as a social worker in the Child Protection Unit of DYS from 2012 to 2014. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

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Answers sought on how to help veterans buy homes



From left, CNMI Veterans Affairs Office program coordinator Vivian S. Taitano, Northern Marianas Housing Corp. corporate director Jesse S. Palacios, and CNMI executive officer for Veterans Affairs Stanley T. Iakopo.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The CNMI Office of Veterans Affairs recently met with the Northern Marianas Housing Corp. corporate director Jesse S. Palacios to discuss opportunities and programs that assist veterans in owning a home.

Of particular concern to CNMI Veterans Affairs executive officer Stanley T. Iakopo and program coordinator Vivian S. Taitano were answers to the question: What is their process and how can they assist veterans in purchasing or how to even qualify for a home?

"Our brave men and women sacrificed to protect our country deserve a dignified place to live. Good housing is part of the respect and gratitude to which they should be entitled, particularly when returning home to our islands. We need to do more to serve those who have fought for our freedom," said Iakopo.

He added that the Department of Veterans Affairs offers home loans and grants. "These programs help service members, veterans, and surviving spouses buy, refinance, or modify their home.

The VA guarantees part of the loan, meaning they will cover a portion of the loan if a veteran defaults on it. This allows lenders, such as banks and mortgage companies to offer veterans more favorable terms."

The CNMI VA Office also recommended to NMHC to allow an eligible veteran with a pre-approved loan and an "Authenticated Eligibility Letter" from the VA to have an opportunity to win a bid and own a home through NMHC's auctioning process.

Other recommendations made by the CNMI VA Office include giving veterans ample time to submit their home applications, a reduced interest rate for veterans, and lower monthly payments for veterans.

"Eligible veterans are advised to go to NMHC to find out about all the options they have for veterans," Iakopo said. (PR)

Wishing you good health, wealth and happiness in the New Year.

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From left, chef Jason Zhung, chef Gary Zhu and Hyatt Regency Saipan sous chef Zen Tomokane.
PHOTOS BY BEA CABRERA

By BEA CABRERA
beacabrerasaipan@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

The Lunar New Year is one of the biggest celebrations not only in China but around the world. Hyatt Regency Saipan will be joining the fun in welcoming the Year of the Rat at the Kili Café & Terrace with visiting chefs from Grand Hyatt Shenyang: Chefs Jason Zhung and Gary Zhu.

Shenyang, located in the northern part of China, is a favorite culinary destination that is big on seafood and the dishes that will be served at

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welcomes the

Lunar

New Year



Deep fried parrot fish with garlic bits.

the Kili Café & Terrace will be inspired by the ingredients, taste and presentation from that region.

"What Chef Zhu and I did was to prepare famous Shenyang dishes using local ingredients. It was a challenge but we find that the ingredients available locally added more flavor and freshness into every dish," said Zhung.

"We are happy to be in beautiful Saipan and cannot wait to serve the dishes we prepared in welcoming the new year. May the dishes bring good luck and good health to everyone," said Zhu.

Guests will begin with some of the delicious appetizers: spicy beef cubes and okra with seafood. One may mistake the spicy beef cubes covered in red herbs and

spices as a kind of red velvet pastry but its taste, flavor, and creative presentation will win your heart. The okra with seafood will wake up your appetite, leaving you wanting for more.

The Peking duck—a staple at any big Chinese celebration—will be one of the main dishes. Hyatt slow-roasted the meat and baked it to retain the crispy skin and the tender duck meat. Enjoy this dish two ways: wrap the shredded duck meat

and skin, cucumber, spring onion and hoisin sauce in Chinese pancake or just gorge on the skin and meat, using hoisin sauce. Which ever way, you will experience many levels of rich flavors.

The fried parrot fish smooth-

Continued on Next Page

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CHINESE ASSOCIATION OF SAIPAN. U.S.A.

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Chinese Lunar Year Party on Friday, January 31st,
6:00pm - 10:00pm at Fiesta Resort & Spa, Hibiscus Hall

JANUARY 25th, 2020 CHINESE NEW YEAR *Lion Dance* SCHEDULE

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8:45AM	CENTURY HOTEL	16:00PM	CTSI / D&Q
8:50AM	JP CENTER	16:00PM	DOLLAR DAYS
9:00AM	SAIPAN COMPUTER SERVICES	16:00PM	MICRO BEACH HOTEL
9:30AM	TRANSAMERICA	17:00PM	FIESTA RESORT
10:00AM	SAIPAN APPAREL	17:00PM	SEATOUGH
	POI	17:00PM	ISHOP (FIESTA)
10:30AM	IT&E	17:30PM	SAIPAN ADVENTURE
	SHIRLEY'S CAFÉ	17:30PM	I LOVE SAIPAN
11:00AM	HYATT REGENCY SAIPAN	17:30PM	TASTY BURGER (PDM)
	NIC HEALTH	18:00PM	ISHOP
11:30AM	GRANDVIRIO RESORT	18:00PM	IMPERIAL PACIFIC INT'L
12:00PM	CANTON RESTAURANT	18:30PM	HYATT REGENCY SAIPAN
12:20PM	MAJESTY RESTAURANT	19:00PM	I LOVE SAIPAN
14:00PM	KANOA RESORT	19:30PM	ARC
	ISHOP (KANOA)	19:30PM	KENSINGTON HOTEL
	CENTURY TOURS	20:00PM	NEW DOUBLE RESTAURANT
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Peking duck.



Okra with seafood.

From Page 12

ered in crisp garlic will definitely be one of your favorites. This dish may appear quite plain but it brings out the good qualities of local parrot fish. Paired with bits of garlic, prepare to have this with extra rice.

The wok-fried scallops with asparagus has so many textures to count it is obviously meant to "wow."

Other dishes that will be available are the fried dumplings, sweet and sour chicken, crisp shrimp and delicious desserts such as pomelo mango sago in coconut milk and the red bean fried dumplings.

The Chinese New Year spread at the Hyatt started last Wednesday and it will go on until Sunday brunch. It is a first for Hyatt to celebrate this occasion both at lunch and dinner.

Today, enjoy Chinese New



Fried dumplings.

Year prelude for lunch and dinner. Lunch is only \$29 per person, dinner is only \$45 and Club at the Hyatt members are welcome. Have dinner on the first day of the year according to the Chinese calendar for only \$65 and \$45 for Club at the Hyatt members. Sunday brunch will also be celebrating Chinese Lunar New Year for only \$55 per person.



Scallops with asparagus.

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Happy Chinese New Year

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Cash prizes increase from \$288 at 9pm to \$2,888
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Kung Hei Fat Choi!
恭喜發財

Enjoy the Lunar New Year celebration at Club 88 and Saipan Vegas and you could be the next big winner!

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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EDITORIAL

Money grab

Traveling with a large sum of cash is probably a bad idea from a safety standpoint, but it shouldn't mean you risk having that money taken away by law enforcement because someone labels it suspicious activity.

A woman from Massachusetts claims that's exactly what happened to her when she tried to board a plane in Pittsburgh last summer while carrying \$82,373 in her purse, money that was her father's life savings and entrusted to her for deposit in a joint account.

Terry Rolin, 79, a retired railroad worker from South Fayette, Pa., and his daughter, Rebecca Brown of Lowell, Mass., filed suit in federal court against the Transportation Security Administration and the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration claiming the money was illegally seized and should be returned to them.

And that's exactly what should happen. The incident amounts to legal theft by the government and the trampling of an individual's Fourth Amendment right against illegal search and seizure.

In the lawsuit, Brown said the money was flagged by a TSA agent when her carry-on luggage was X-rayed. A state trooper questioned her about the money, but she was allowed to leave for the gate with the cash. Later, a DEA agent and trooper approached her at the gate and interrogated her about why she was carrying so much cash. The agent insisted on talking with her father, despite Brown's objection that her father has cognitive issues and would be groggy and confused since it was only 7 a.m.

She also told the agent she and her siblings planned to buy her father a new truck as a surprise.

After talking with her father, the agent told Brown "your answers don't match" and seized the cash.

The DEA has since informed Rolin and Brown—neither of whom has been charged with a crime—that it plans to keep the money through civil asset forfeiture, a legal process that allows law enforcement to seize money or property from an individual without charging that person.

If it seems unfathomable that a law enforcement agency could seize the cash you have in your airport luggage—for virtually no reason and without charges—think again. The nonprofit Institute for Justice, which is representing Rolin and Brown in their class-action suit, said between 2006 and 2016, the DEA seized more than \$200 million from 5,200 individuals at the 15 busiest airports in the country.

The case involving Rolin and Brown highlights the abuse of civil asset forfeiture laws. It's one of the reasons the Institute for Justice, which has won similar cases, filed a class-action suit, asking the courts to rule that agencies such as TSA and DEA can no longer conduct seizures without probable cause and the filing of charges.

Carrying a significant amount of cash into an airport, though unwise, is not a crime. Having it seized without cause or charges filed is unconscionable.

The courts should rule in favor of Mr. Rolin and Ms. Brown, have their money returned and put an end to future seizures.

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COURTHOUSE



REPUBLICAN-CONTROLLED SENATE



Medical Referral questions

The Torre administration, low on money and looking for options, has chosen to look at the CNMI Medical Referral annual expenditures of \$15 million to find some savings. They also cite the overtime costs for law enforcement, (Department of Public Safety, Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services, Department of Corrections, and Division of Customs), but obviously call for no cuts there. They cite these to try and make the Medical Referrals seem less important.

I'm all for finding ways to save money. I'm all for cutting less appropriate government programs and their associated costs. I am for axing some entire central government divisions. (fodder for a later column). We need to prioritize but we don't need to be dumb about it.

CNMI Medical Referral sends patients from Saipan, Tinian and Rota off to first-rate facilities to have a wide variety of procedures performed by highly trained professional doctors, nurses and technical personnel in the newest hospital facilities with the very latest medical equipment. Often these patients are indigent, poor and have serious life-threatening illnesses. Even when they are not poor, they don't send people off island for a hangnail. Potential patients are carefully screened by Medical Referral to meet stringent criteria before they qualify for so much as a discounted hotel room. So only the poorest of patients have their medical costs paid for by Medical Referral. Those actual medical costs for the poor account for the vast majority of total expenses (90-plus%). Those making too much to have their medical costs paid may still receive a small per diem allowance or a pre-contracted and discounted hotel room or maybe both, if their carefully checked income is low enough, paid by Medical Referral.

Our governor, in consultation with Aetna Insurance and our Legislative Health Committee, has negotiated a deal with that company, which the governor has implemented, for Aetna Insurance to handle all the appointments of each patient for their specific medical needs and to take care of insurance requirements, including all documentation.

"The administration assured us that we would see a significant 40% reduction in costs by allowing Aetna to provide this particular service for the medical referral office of the Commonwealth," said Rep Lorenzo Deleon Guerrero.

The lawmaker also said that during the meeting, the governor insisted that the Health Committee chairs of both the House and Senate, Rep. Jose Itibus (R-Saipan) and Sen. Justo Quitugua (R-Saipan), respectively, meet with Medical Referral Services

By **BRUCE BATEMAN**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Bruce A. Bateman resides on Saipan with a wife, a son, and an unknown number of boonie dogs. He has owned and operated a number of unusual businesses and most recently worked as the marketing manager for MVA. Bruce likes to read, travel, tinker with bicycles, hike, swim, and play a bit of golf. He is opinionated and writes when the moon is full and the mood strikes.



director Ronald Sablan to discuss all issues concerned.

So 40% of \$15 million is \$6 million buckaroos, which is a heck of a savings! If they can do that without cutting services to the poor who need those medical procedures to keep them alive and can't be helped on Saipan, I am a buyer. But is that level of savings really possible with just a change of paperwork providers? Seems doubtful to me but I will keep an eye on the details and be looking, as you should, at whether it really works to save that much or not.

I like my neighbor Vinnie's (Sen. Vinnie Sablan) idea to spend \$10 million reinvesting in *our* medical facility so fewer patients need to be sent to top-notch hospitals in expensive Hawaii or even not expensive Philippines. But let's take a closer look. First, \$10 million is a drop in the bucket for medical upgrades. Guam as an example has spent far more and still sends referral patients to the Philippines and Hawaii. Guam also brought in a major investor to build a modern new hospital, which doesn't work because they can't (and we on Saipan can't either) staff whole hospitals with top professionals at the salaries offered. Hundreds of millions down the tubes? In Guam, a single test, a CT scan, costs \$1,000 while it costs only \$400 in the Philippines. An airplane ticket costs \$600 and the payer has broken even. All the other tests, procedures, consultations etc. are gravy and large amounts are saved on each patient sent off island.

Here on Saipan, the example is even worse. A CT scan test costs \$1,400 here and \$400 in the Philippines using the latest 1152-slice Somatom scanner there versus Saipan with our 1937 model Volkswagen 180-slice scanner. Once completed with the scan, there is nobody who can read and interpret it here and hundreds of dollars more need to be paid out just to read it. I had one done here on Saipan and the guy who read it remarked that

See **MEDICAL** on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Overspending

Reportedly, the CNMI has “overspent” its recent fiscal year’s budget by as much as \$8 million. Appalling how this was overlooked after overspending a couple million dollars.

Perhaps we could get rid of high-tech calculators and begin anew using our 10 fingers. A pencil with a huge eraser and handkerchief for our runny nose ought to do the job.

Budgetary protocol requires supplementary funding request when the original amount is insufficient. It’s all a matter of timely communication. It’s still taxpayers’ money that requires accountability!

Moreover, the focus ought to shift to investments to generate additional revenue to meet expanding needs. This is the realistic answer in concert with prudent spending. It must be done constructively and proactively too!

Revisit

The issue brings forth the pertinent query: has our economy expanded, stagnated or gone south and do we understand its implications? Have we reset buttons to revisit investments for revenue generation purposes? If not, what’s the realistic answer beyond complacency?

Understood the annual budgetary exercise where reasonable projections and allocations are made after thorough review. Unfortunately, more often than not earmarked expenses often overwhelm what’s in our bank account. Not going to make any bones about it for it happens! Dealt with it before while still in government.

But there’s a secret to solvency in perpetuity. I’ll let you guess it while staring at it right here and now!

Politics

I see both political parties are organizing to present planks on the campaign trail this election year. The incumbent GOP must answer any and all questions about its performance.

Colin Kaepernick’s stupid lie about America

In the torrent of idiotic commentary unleashed by the killing of Qassem Soleimani, Colin Kaepernick’s deserves a place of honor.

The NFL washout and Nike persona who makes sure the company doesn’t produce any overly patriotic sneakers tweeted, “There is nothing new about American terrorist attacks against Black and Brown people for the expansion of American imperialism.”

For Kaepernick, Soleimani is just another dark-skinned man brutalized by the United States. The Iranian terror master was, in effect, driving while nonwhite and paid the ultimate price. For all we know, the operator of the MQ-9 Reaper drone that took him out was making a white-supremacy hand signal while unleashing this racist attack.

This interpretation of events takes identity politics to a whole new level, defining the blood-drenched hit man for a terroristic, profoundly anti-Semitic, deeply intolerant theocracy as a victim, based on his skin color alone.

Obviously, no one will mistake Colin Kaepernick for an original thinker; he’s only repeating things he’s read or been told, in a slightly more lurid form. His worldview is disproportionately represented in academia and on the left, which objects to calling Soleimani a monster (hence, Elizabeth Warren’s pathetic backtracking after forthrightly condemning So-

Vicious and testy political theatrics has begun and the Dems aren’t giving the incumbent GOP any breathing room as shown in the recent hyperbolic exchange, an indication it’s ready to flex its muscles.

Has the incumbent done anything to upgrade the poverty income level of nearly 15-thousand employees or “not yet, already?”

The answer is obvious the question is why the obvious inaction? It’s the heaviest issue the GOP must answer forthwith specifically, why did it skip it altogether? Negligence? It’s good to see if the GOP could render reasoned articulation on this and other collateral issues.

Trade

“The re-establishment of trade relations between our country and China may well be a window of opportunity for our inclusion that would spur more economic growth here,” according to Sen. Terry Santos.

“The proximity of the islands makes it a natural venue for more stateside business ventures to consider establishing here to deal efficiently with China’s proximity,” she said. “Moreover, the market is not more than a day away by ship or less than four hours by air”, Santos noted.

“The China market is huge and even beyond our comprehension but an opportunity for island leadership to converge and ponder how do we deal with it moving forward”, she said. “It’s wide open opportunity for economic growth for the islands be it on transient traded goods or on island investment.” The issue requires proactive organization!

Thematic

The word “impeachment” has turned thematically redundant even with proof that Trump didn’t violate the U.S. Constitution nor did he commit high crime on his own.

So Trump is convicted of political animus while Dems look

leimani in her initial statement).

It is certainly true that racism has had a large hand in U.S. foreign policy through much of our history. We drove Native Americans from their lands, in part based on racial animus. Thomas Jefferson refused to recognize an independent Haiti after a successful slave revolt, for fear it would fuel insurrections here. The American South coveted lands in Latin America prior to the Civil War, seeking more territory for slavery. After World War I, Woodrow Wilson opposed a racial equality proposal made by Japan at the Paris Peace Conference.

All of this, and more, are stains on our nation’s history, but to consider racism the chief principle of a rapacious U.S. foreign policy is reductive, malicious, dishonest and incredibly stupid.

The U.S. engaged in titanic struggles in the 20th century against Imperial Germany, Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union, none of which were brown or black. Enormous resources of blood and treasure were poured into stopping these truly imperialist powers from subjecting foreign peoples to their rule.

The United States opposed European colonialism, and its biggest wars since World War II were fought shoulder to shoulder with Asian people in Korea and Vietnam who didn’t want to be overrun by rival Asians allied with totalitarian powers.

A friend of mine works as a chauffeur/driver in an Asian city. He, his wife, and three children live in a modest house in a poorer neighborhood with houses quite close together. The other evening, one of their neighbors, living with his parents, had a fight with his wife. Apparently, both he and his wife have an ice drug problem; the husband was drinking as well. At fight’s end, the wife stormed out and the husband, in a rage, set fire to his mom’s house and ran away. Six people died, including three children, and 20 nearby houses were destroyed. Several other people were injured, including the perpetrator’s own parents.

The hapless confessed arsonist has been charged with the arson and six murders, his life destroyed, and that of these innocent others for the fleeting pleasure of a stupid drug high.

Luckily, my friend’s house was spared the fire but had extensive damage from the smoke, water, and the firemen standing on

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.



around for a crime to fit it. Has American jurisprudence changed in recent past where one could be convicted without the commission and conviction of a crime? But it’s all a collective effort to prevent a Trump reelection!

On the islands, it’s the budgetary term “shortfall” that seems a popular term. It’s when money managers find there’s less in the coffers than projected. It means some serious cuts are in order and we can begin by downsizing the legislature to a unicameral nine-member body. Resolve?

Then turn right around and cut the number of government employees to skeletal level. It’s a prudent move that would ensure more funds are available for worthy programs that benefit taxpayers. As it is everybody is boss with coffee cup in hand refusing to work to serve taxpayers who pay their loot! *Dalai!*

Rebuilding

Obviously, a lot of money had gone to rebuilding after Yutu’s destruction of the islands late last year. In the process, money managers had to guard scarce funds to ensure there’s enough for our collective needs. Dedication!

Destruction from natural disaster is a hardship unto itself. Moreover, rebuilding is a tough cookie diverting funds already earmarked for a given purpose to begin anew. It taxes what little we have in the treasury including our half-exhausted energy.

By RICH LOWRY

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Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.



In the more immediate, post-9/11 period, we toppled the Taliban and Saddam Hussein. These were interventions motivated by national interest, but also optimistic and idealistic to a fault. Viewing these conflicts through a racial prism requires ignoring that the Taliban and Saddam overwhelmingly killed, tortured and repressed other nonwhite people.

The same is obviously true of Qassem Soleimani. He has prodigious amounts of American blood on his hands (of Americans of all races and creeds), but he mainly killed other people in the Middle East—Syrians opposed to Bashar Assad, Iraqis protesting Iranian influence, anyone who got in the way of the Iranian imperial project.

His end is a boon to humanity, which should be obvious to anyone who’s not drunk on ideology or racial obsessions.

his roof fighting the fire. His friends are now helping him rebuild and get back on his feet. That is the one bright spot here.

What we should learn here is—stay away from hard drugs. If you are already hooked, get some help and get off that dumb wagon—you are on the road to hell.

Thanks for reading Sour Grapes!

■■■

“Physicians mend or end us; but though in health we sneer, when sick we call them to attend us, without the least propensity to jeer.”

—Lord George Byron

“I got the bill for my surgery. Now I know what those doctors were wearing masks for.”

—James H. Baron

MEDICAL

From Page 14

my spleen was in good shape (in fact my spleen was removed a long ago).

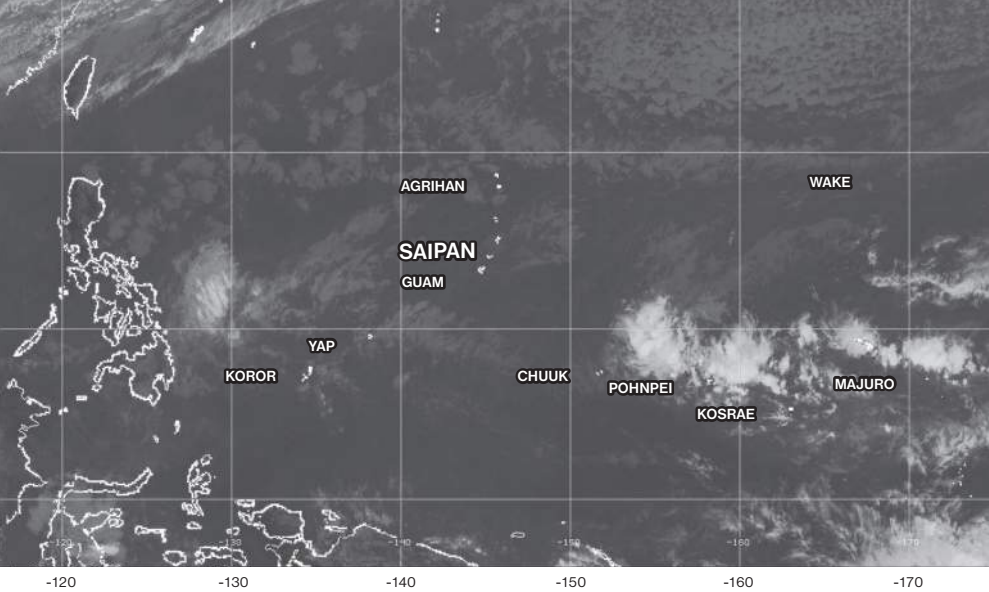
Let’s tread very lightly on trying to reduce this literally life-and-death expenditure carefully overseen by our experienced CNMI Medical Referral Office here on Saipan and their contracted official representative personnel in their office in the Philippines.

Bad things happen

Sometimes we get so involved in all that’s happening on Saipan we forget that bad things, and good, happen in other places too.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN									
TODAY		SATURDAY		SUNDAY		MONDAY		TUESDAY	
Partly cloudy and breezy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 25 mph.		Partly cloudy and breezy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 25 mph.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers.		Partly sunny with isolated showers.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	
87°	76°	86°	76°	88°	76°	87°	75°	87°	75°
YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE									



PICTURE TIME: 6:46 AM, THURSDAY, JANUARY 23, 2020
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Skies are mostly cloudy with scattered light showers over Guam and Rota this morning, and partly cloudy with isolated showers over Tinian and Saipan. Easterly trade winds are fresh to strong across the Marianas waters. Seas are indicated near 9 feet at Saipan's Tanapag buoy, and 7 to 8 feet at Guam`s Ipan buoy, but Tanapag is partially blocked from east swell, and Ipan from north swell. Over the open waters, combined seas are likely around 10 feet, as shown in satellite-derived wave altimetry.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA			▲▼°F
Guam and Rota	Showers	83° / 75°	
Palau	Thunderstorms	85° / 77°	
Yap	Thunderstorms	86° / 79°	
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	85° / 79°	
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	85° / 78°	
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	85° / 78°	
Majuro	Thunderstorms	86° / 81°	

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲▼°F
Auckland	Partly Cloudy	77° / 64°	
Beijing	Sunny	43° / 21°	
Hong Kong	Sunny	82° / 70°	
Honolulu	Sunny	81° / 68°	
London	Mostly Cloudy	46° / 37°	
Los Angeles	Mostly Sunny	75° / 54°	
Manila	Thunderstorms	88° / 75°	
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	72° / 55°	
Miami	Partly Cloudy	77° / 64°	
New York	Partly Cloudy	48° / 38°	
Osaka	Mostly Cloudy	54° / 45°	
Paris	Partly Cloudy	48° / 36°	
Busan	Cloudy	50° / 45°	
Rome	Partly Cloudy	61° / 52°	
Salem	Showers	58° / 37°	
San Francisco	Mostly Cloudy	57° / 49°	
Seoul	Cloudy	50° / 30°	
Tokyo	Cloudy	46° / 37°	
Washington, DC	Showers	50° / 43°	

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
1:28 AM	LOW TIDE	-0.55	
8:38 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.66	
2:01 PM	LOW TIDE	1.02	
6:42 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.67	

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Friday	6:47 AM	6:10 PM
Saturday	6:47 AM	6:11 PM
Sunday	6:47 AM	6:11 PM
Monday	6:46 AM	6:12 PM
Tuesday	6:46 AM	6:12 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Friday	6:04 AM	5:35 PM	-
Saturday	6:54 AM	6:29 PM	-
Sunday	7:41 AM	7:21 PM	-
Monday	8:23 AM	8:11 PM	-
Tuesday	9:03 AM	9:00 PM	-

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JANUARY 18, 2020									
DEPARTURES					ARRIVALS				
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)					GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN				
UA117	9:15am	9:55am	Daily		UA174	7:30am	8:11am	Daily	
UA156	6:20pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6		UA112	4:45pm	5:26pm	2, 4, 6	
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)					NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN				
SKY816	4:35pm	7:30pm	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7		SKY811	10:15am	3:00pm	Daily	
SKY816	5:05pm	8:00pm	6						
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)					BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN				
7C3451	3:20am	6:30am	Daily		7C3452	9:35pm	2:30am+1	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7	
					7C3452	10:05pm	2:30am+1	3	
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)					SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN				
TW308	2:05am	6:05am	Daily		OZ623	6:45am	12:10pm	5	
OZ626	2:10am	6:05am	1		OZ623	7:00am	12:20pm	7	
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 5, 6, 7		OZ6233	7:30am	12:50pm	2, 4, 6	
OZ626	3:35am	7:20am	4		OZ623	8:10am	1:40pm	1, 3	
7C3403	4:35am	8:35am	Daily		7C3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily	
OZ6243	3:20pm	7:10pm	2, 4, 6		TW309	11:10am	4:25pm	Daily	
OZ624	3:50pm	7:40pm	1, 3, 5, 7		OZ625	7:30pm	1:00am+1	7	
7C3401	4:30pm	8:25pm	Daily		TW307	7:45pm	1:05am+1	Daily	
TW310	5:25pm	10:15pm	Daily		OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 4, 5, 6	
					OZ625	9:05pm	2:25am+1	3	
					7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily	
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)					SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN				
3U8648	6:10am	8:50am	1, 4, 5, 7		3U8647	10:30pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7	
SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)					HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN				
JD396	7:30am	12:05pm	1		JD395	8:05am	3:30pm	4	
JD396	4:50pm	7:55pm	4		JD395	8:50pm	5:00am+1	7	
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)					GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN				
3U8646	4:30am	7:50am	2, 6		3U864	8:10pm	3:10am+1	1, 5	
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)					BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN				
MU764	1:30am	6:00am	3, 5, 7		MU763	4:50pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6	
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)					MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN				
OZ626/701	2:10am	10:35am	1 via ICN		UA189/174	12:40am	8:11am+1	3, 6 via GUM	
OZ626/701	2:50am	10:35am	2, 3, 5, 6, 7 via ICN		OZ702/625	12:05pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN	
UA117/183	9:15am	9:50pm	Daily via GUM		OZ702/625	12:05pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 4, 5, 6 via ICN	
UA117/193	9:15am	11:50pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR		OZ702/625	12:05pm	2:25am+1	3 via ICN	
UA156/183	6:20pm	9:50pm	Daily via GUM		UA192/174	10:40pm	8:11am+1	2, 5 via GUM-ROR	
UA156/193	6:20pm	11:50pm	2 via GUM-ROR		UA184/174	10:55pm	8:11am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	
					OZ704/623	11:45pm	12:10pm+1	5 via ICN	
					OZ704/623	11:45pm	12:20pm+1	7 via ICN	
					OZ704/6233	11:45pm	12:50pm+1	2, 4, 6 via ICN	
					OZ704/623	11:45pm	1:40pm+1	1, 3 via ICN	
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)					HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN				
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN		OZ746/623	12:35am	12:10pm	5 via ICN	
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 5, 6, 7 via ICN		OZ746/623	12:35am	12:20pm	7 via ICN	
OZ626/721	3:35am	11:50am	4 via ICN		OZ746/6233	12:35am	12:50pm	2, 4, 6 via ICN	
UO43	5:40am	8:40am	1, 3, 5, 7		OZ746/623	12:35am	1:40pm	1, 3 via ICN	
OZ6243/9661	3:20pm	11:15pm	2, 4, 6 via ICN		OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN	
OZ624/9661	3:50pm	11:15pm	1, 3, 5 via ICN		OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN	
OZ624/9661	3:50pm	12:15am+1	7 via ICN		OZ722/625	1:15pm	2:25am+1	3 via ICN	
					UO42	6:50pm	1:45am+1	7	
					UO42	9:30pm	4:25am+1	2, 4, 6	
LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, BC SkyMark ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. (The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)									
STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.									
SAIPAN TO ROTA					1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily	
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY		1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily	
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily		1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily	
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily		1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily	
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily		1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily	
ROTA TO SAIPAN					1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily	
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY		1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily	
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily		1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily	
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily		1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily	
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily		1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily	
ROTA TO GUAM					TINIAN TO SAIPAN				
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY		FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily		2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily	
GUAM TO ROTA					2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily	
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY		2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily	
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily		2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily	
SAIPAN TO TINIAN					2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily	
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY		2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily	
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily		2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily	
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily		2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily	
					2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily	
					2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily	
					2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily	
					2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily	

2 NMI studies in the works

FORT SHAFTER, Hawaii—The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers announced Jan. 14 several civil works studies that will be accomplished with funding provided in Public Law 116-20, including two for the CNMI.

Honolulu District will manage six FY19 Emergency Supplemental studies, two each for Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth.

The money for these studies is provided for under the Additional Supplemental Appropriations Disaster Relief Act of 2019 that was signed into law on June 6, 2019.

This appropriation will assist with the recovery and resiliency-building efforts throughout the U.S. Pacific territories in response to major storms affecting the region between 2017 and 2019.

The Office of Management and Budget, in coordination with the assistant secretary of the Army, has approved funding for investigations and operations and maintenance activities with all investigations funded with 100% federal money.

Studies pursued through investigations that are found to hold federal interest will have access to approximately \$740 million in construction funding and will require

a cost-share with a non-federal sponsor.

The six Pacific studies with the current working cost estimates include:

■ **GUAM:** Agana River (Hagatna River Flood Control) flood risk management study (\$3 million); Pacific Territories Post-Disaster watershed assessment (\$1.5 million) for investigation of measures to increase resiliency and address damages incurred from historic storm events.

■ **AMERICAN SAMOA:** Tafuna flood risk management study (\$3 million), Pacific Territories Post-Disaster watershed assessment (\$1.5 million) for investigation of measures to increase resiliency and address damages incurred from historic storm events.

■ **CNMI:** Saipan Beach Road coastal storm damage reduction study (\$3 million), Pacific Territories Post-Disaster watershed assessment (\$1.5 million) for investigation of measures to increase resiliency and address damage incurred from storms.

Honolulu District is currently engaging study sponsors to initiate each investigation. A start date for the studies has not yet been identified. (PR)



May your heart be filled with happiness, love, and contentment as you celebrate the new year!

Gong Xi Fa Cai

From the management and staff of


Tan Holdings



Tan Siu Lin Foundation


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www.tanholdings.com


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Shirley's
COFFEE SHOP
Home of the Best Fried Rice

HAPPY CHINESE NEW YEAR
Gong Xi Fa Cai
LION DANCE PERFORMANCE

January 25, 2020 - Garapan 8:30 am | Susupe 10am

Garapan: Open 24 hours | 233-4519/20
Susupe: 6am-10pm daily | 235-5379/80


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www.shirelyscffeeshop.com


[shirleyscoffeeshop](https://www.instagram.com/shirleyscoffeeshop)

CNMI 2020 CENSUS ✓ BE COUNTED

Call: (670) 682-2020

  [cnmi2020census](https://www.facebook.com/cnmi2020census)

Email: cnmi@2020census.gov

United States[®]
Census
2020

Commonwealth of the
Northern Mariana Islands

United States[®]
Census
2020

Commonwealth of the
Northern Mariana Islands

What is the Census?

The decennial census is the once-a-decade population and housing count of all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the Island Areas. The 2020 Census of CNMI will also collect socioeconomic and demographic characteristics of the population and housing of CNMI.

What is the purpose of the Census?

The purpose of the Census is to collect information about the population and housing conditions of people living in the US and its Territories.

Do I have to respond?

Yes, responding to the census is required by law (Title 13, U.S. Code, Sections 141 and 193). Your answers are kept completely confidential.

Why is it important to answer the Census Questions? By answering the Census questions, you will not only be helping your family, but other families in the CNMI.

How will the Census help my family? Your participation will determine how federal funds will be distributed to the CNMI. The census provides critical data that lawmakers, business owners, teachers, and many others use to provide daily services, products, and support for you and your community. Every year, billions of dollars in federal funding go to hospitals, fire departments, schools, roads, and other resources based on census data.

Is my response confidential?

The U.S. Census Bureau is required by law to protect your information (Title 13, U.S. Code, Section 9). The Census Bureau is not permitted to publicly release your responses in a way that could identify you or your household. By law, the Census Bureau can only use your responses to produce statistics.

How is my information protected? The U.S. Census Bureau is bound by law to protect your answers and keep them strictly confidential. In fact, every employee takes an oath to protect your personal information for life.

Will my information be disclosed to other agencies?

Your information is protected. Federal law protects your privacy and keeps your answers confidential (Title 13, U.S. Code, Section 9). By law, the U.S. Census Bureau can only use your responses to produce statistics.

How will I know someone is an official 2020 Island Areas Census worker?

All census workers carry official government badges and an ID identifying them as a 2020 Census worker. You can also call the Census Office of the CNMI at 682-2020 for verification. Census workers will never ask you for banking information, social security numbers, passwords, or to send money or pay a fee in connection with your 2020 Census response.

We will not be asking about your citizenship status. We will not ask for your Social Security card number, donations, or monies. If anyone claiming to be a Census employee asks you any of these, please contact the Census Office of the CNMI immediately at 682-2020.



Eli D. Cabrera
Administrator

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality
Division of Coastal Resources Management
P.O. Box 501304, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel.: (670) 664-8300; Fax: (670) 664-8315
www.dcrm.gov.mp



Janice E. Castro
Director, DCRM

PUBLIC NOTICE

From the COMMONWEALTH OF THE NOTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS COASTAL
MANAGEMENT PROGRAM
of the CNMI'S DIVISION OF COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

DATE: January 24, 2020

NOTICE: The Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality (BECQ) Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) is currently reviewing a federal consistency determination request from the United States Department of the Navy regarding the Mariana Islands Training and Testing (MITT) Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/ Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS)

More information about the proposed activity can be accessed via the following website:
https://dcrm.gov.mp/wp-content/uploads/crm/2019_DEC_13_U_N465_1492_CNMI-DCR_M-trn-ltr-16-DEC-19-TO-MS.-REYES.pdf and
https://dcrm.gov.mp/wp-content/uploads/crm/2019_DEC_10_U_N465_1467_ENCL-TO_C_NMI-DCRM-trn-ltr-10-DEC-19.pdf

Federal consistency is a provision of the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) that requires federal actions that affect the coastal zone to be consistent to the maximum extent practicable with the enforceable policies of a coastal state's federally approved coastal management plan. Comments on whether the project is consistent with the enforceable policies of the CNMI's coastal management program can be submitted to the Division of Coastal Resource Management at FedCon@dcrm.gov.mp.

This public notice has been published for compliance with 15 CFR § 930.42. DCRM is soliciting public comments for thirty (30) days, comment period began on January 7, 2020 and will end on February 7, 2020. This comment period has been extended to give the public a sufficient opportunity to develop and provide comments on whether the proposed project is consistent with management program enforceable policies. We welcome your feedback and thank you for your consideration.

AlumKnight brings home his skills

In anticipation of the annual celebration of Catholic Schools Week, or CSW, Mount Carmel School recognizes AlumKnights who have pursued vocations in line with the theme of CSW: "Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed." This week, MCS recognizes 2008 AlumKnight Dre Delos Santos.

Delos Santos is a graduate of Mount Carmel School and earned his bachelor's degree in Kinesiology and Rehabilitation Science from Kapiolani Community College and University of Hawaii. Prior to pursuing his bachelor's degree, Delos Santos said that he wasn't the most conventional of all accomplishing students.

"I wasn't the best student," Delos Santos said. "There were 33 seniors in my graduating class, and I was ranked 27th. That didn't discourage me though."

Today, Delos Santos is an accomplished physical trainer. After earning his bachelor's degree, he studied and earned his certification as a certified strength and conditioning specialist from the National Strength and Conditioning Association. At that point, Delos Santos shifted his focus to women's

health and pain and injury management. Since then, Delos Santos has trained more than 100 clients looking to improve their health, lifestyles, and wellbeing.

After working in Hawaii as a certified trainer, Delos Santos chose to bring his skills and knowledge back to the CNMI and give back to his community. "For now, my main focus is to consolidate my position as one of the leading physical trainers on island, and improve the quality of people's lives through strength training."

Looking back on his experience, Delos Santos is grateful to many people for his success, especially his parents. "Like I said, I was not the best of all students while going to school, but the turning point was when I received a letter after my first semester in college stating that I was placed on academic probation for my grades. Yes, I've always had difficulty in academics, but that particular moment really set my resolve and from that point, I focused on my studies better and reached



Delos Santos

my goal to graduate with a college degree."

When asked how Mount Carmel School's mission impacted his journey since high school, Delos Santos said, "Mount Carmel School's mission is to see with Christ's eyes, and I've continued to live my life to have positive interactions with everybody. It's nice to be important, but it's more important to be nice."

Delos Santos is also a regular contributor to the magazine *TAGA Plus* and *TAGA Sports* and a couple of fitness websites, and is a sports columnist of the *Saipan Tribune* where he has a question-and-answer column, where readers can ask him about fitness-related question.

Delos Santos concluded by sharing a piece of advice to current juniors and seniors in high school, "Don't be in such a hurry to make your mark. The best of anything can't be rushed, it's a process."

For more information about academic programs and services at Mount Carmel School, visit www.mount-carmelsaipan.com. **(PR)**



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
PUBLIC ASSISTANCE OFFICE
DR-4235 | DR-4396 | DR-4404

RFQ20-GOV/PA-043

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION STATEMENTS Design and Project Management Services for the Public Assistance Office

Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Arnold I. Palacios, through the Public Assistance Office, (collectively, "Commonwealth"), are soliciting sealed proposals from Architectural and Engineering firms to provide Design and Project Management Services for awarded Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Public Assistance Program funded projects.

Procurement procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001, or latest revision thereof, Public Law 15-95 (Local Preference Act) as amended by Public Law 15-118 does not apply to this federally funded project. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

Selected firms will be retained as independent contractors under general provision of the Contracting Officer or his/her designee. Firms will act as agents of the expenditure authority on assigned Public Assistance projects to ensure that identified objectives are achieved within cost, time and legal requirements while maintaining effective stakeholder communications. Selected firms will be retained on a two-year contract with an option to renew for an additional 2 years at the discretion of the Commonwealth.

Compensation for services will be determined based on the requirements of the assigned projects including payments for approved staff and expenses. Selected firms would be precluded from providing any other services outside the scope of services associated with the assigned projects.

Interested parties may pick up the applicable scope of work and submittal requirements from the CNMI Public Assistance Office located at the Juan A. Sablan Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, CNMI, or request via electronic mail to Patrick C. Guerrero (pguerrero@pa.gov.mp) beginning January 24, 2020.

A pre-proposal meeting will be held on January 31, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. at the Office of the Governor Conference Room, Juan A. Sablan Building in Capitol Hill, Saipan.

Statements of qualification must be presented by a combination of both brochures and the use of current U.S. Government Standard Form 330 or the latest version of Standard Forms. Statement of Qualifications will be evaluated and scored based on the following criteria:

1. Qualification of Firm and/or Personnel.....40%
2. Experience in Design and Project Management.....40%
3. Work Load.....20%

Discussions shall be conducted with the top three (3) ranked firms or with all the firms. After selections are made, negotiations will be conducted with firms to determine the final fair and reasonable price of the contract for the work to be performed. The selection process shall be guided by § 70-30.3-305 of the CNMI Procurement Regulations and any other section related to contracts for the requested services.

Qualifications statements must be sealed and marked "RFQ20-GOV/PA-043, Design and Project Management Services for the Public Assistance Office." For firms within the CNMI, one (1) original and four (4) copies of the qualifications statement must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP, no later than 10:00 a.m. (ChST) on February 7, 2020. Proposers located outside the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their proposal by submitting a Notice of Intent to Propose. Notices of Intent to Propose must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. (ChST) on February 7, 2020 and may be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to a.magofna@dof.gov.mp. For proposers located outside the CNMI, one (1) original and four (4) copies of the sealed qualifications statement must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than February 7, 2020 and must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. (ChST) on February 14, 2020. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies of the proposal may be cause for rejection of a proposal.

Questions regarding this RFQ20-GOV/PA-043 may be submitted in writing to Patrick C. Guerrero, Public Assistance Officer, at pguerrero@pa.gov.mp no later than February 3, 2020.

Gratuities. It shall be a breach of ethical standards for any person to offer, give or agree to give any employee or former employee, or for any employee or former employee to solicit, demand, accept or agree to accept from another person, a gratuity or an offer of employment in connection with any decision, approval, disapproval, recommendation, preparation of any part of a program requirement or a purchase request, influencing the content of any specification or procurement standard, rendering of advice, investigation, auditing or in any other advisory capacity in any proceeding or application, request for ruling, determination, claim or controversy, or other particular matter, pertaining to any program requirement or a contract or subcontract or to any solicitation or proposal therefor. NMIAC Section 70-30.3-p725(a).

Kickbacks. It shall be a breach of ethical standards for any payment, gratuity or offer of employment to be made by or on behalf of a subcontractor under a contract to the prime contractor or higher tier subcontractor or any person associated therewith as an inducement for the award of subcontractor or order. NMIAC Section 70-30.3-725(b).

Contingent Fees. It shall be a breach of ethical standards for a person to be retained, or to retain a person, to solicit or secure government contracts upon an agreement or understanding for a commission, percentage, brokerage or contingent fee, except for retention of bona fide employees or bona fide established commercial selling agencies for the purpose of securing business. NMIAC Section 70-30.3-730.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if, in its opinion to do so, would be in the best interests of the CNMI government. All proposals shall become the sole property of the CNMI government.

Virginia C. Villagomez
Governor's Authorized Representative

Francisco C. Aguon
Acting Director, Procurement & Supply



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

INVITATION FOR BID PROJECT NO. IFB-004-20

SUBMISSION DATE: FEBRUARY 09, 2018 TIME: 2:00 P.M.

PROCUREMENT AND DELIVERY OF ONE (1) UNIT POLICE PATROL BOAT WITH TRAILER

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting sealed bids for the procurement and delivery of one (1) unit Police Patrol Boat with Trailer, destination Saipan. Bidders shall take into consideration all charges associated with this procurement before finalizing their bid price.

The Bid Package is available for pick-up beginning January 10, 2020, at the CPA Accounting Office, 2nd Floor, Departure Terminal Building, Saipan International Airport, upon a non-refundable payment of \$150.00 in cash or cashier's check.

A Pre-Bid Conference will be held at the CPA Conference Room, 2nd Floor, Departure Building on January 29, 2020 at 10:00 a.m., to discuss and ask questions regarding this procurement process. All interested bidders are asked to attend.

Questions regarding this procurement should be submitted through the CPA Executive Director via email at cpa.receptionist@pticom.com with copy to jtdelacruz@cpa.gov.mp prior to February 3rd., 2020.

All bids shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: "Bid for Procurement and Delivery of one (1) unit Police Patrol Boat with Trailer/IFB-004-20". One (1) original and two (2) copies of the bid must be submitted no later than 2:00 p.m. Local Time, February 7, 2020, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport. Bids will be opened at 3:00 p.m. and publicly announced. Bidders are welcome to attend the bid opening. Bids submitted by facsimile (fax) transmission will not be considered. Any bids received after the bid submittal deadline shall be rejected and returned to the bidder unopened.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bids submitted for; (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Invitation for Bids; (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the bid would not be in the best interest of CPA. The CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would not be in CPA's best interest.

All bids shall become the property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority. This Invitation for Bid shall be executed as per the CPA Procurement Regulations.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Date: _____

A wish for happiness and prosperity for entire NMI

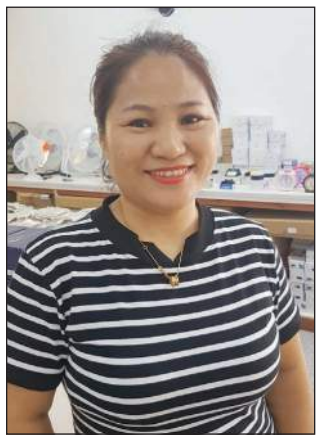
By BEA CABRERA
beacabrerasaipan@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

The CNMI will join the rest of the world tomorrow, Jan. 25, to celebrate the most important event in the Chinese calendar, which is the Chinese New Year. This year, however, it is specifically called the Lunar New Year.

According to Chinese history, the difference between the Chinese New Year and the Lunar New Year is that the former is based on the Chinese lunar calendar, which means the new year is celebrated on the second moon following midwinter. The latter is based on the first new moon that occurs toward the end of winter and that is why this year's celebration is happening in January instead of February.

Aside from being with family and friends, this is also a time when old Chinese traditions that are unique to the new year resurface. Some of these traditions include thorough cleaning of the house before welcoming the new year to remove bad luck, shopping for new clothes, wearing red, and putting luck-inducing calligraphies on doorways and windows, to name a few.

Fei Villagomez of Finasisu



Villagomez

said that this is the time of the year where she and family cook a lot of food. "We cook many new year dishes on the 24th like there is no tomorrow. That includes beef, fish, chicken, duck and pork," she said.

The next seven days starting Jan. 25 are also important days. "These are days that are spent going around to greet and be with family. We treat this time as a reunion because all throughout the year, families may be apart because of work and school," she said. "This is a time where everyone goes home and reconnect with family and ancestors, no matter how far the travel may be. We also welcome friends to join us in our celebration because the new year signifies sharing, giving thanks and blessing everyone for the incoming year."

Exchanging red envelopes filled with money is a staple Chinese tradition during the new year, according to **Anna Liu** from Gualo Rai. "We pass red envelopes to the younger



Liu

generation and if you have a business, it is tradition that you put a big amount of money because we believe that the more blessings you give away, it would come back to you two-fold throughout the year and more business will come in," she said.

On Jan. 25 itself, "our family gather together and even friends because we consider them close family members. Everyone tries very hard to travel to be reunited with family once again and aside from the happiness of seeing each other again, we just stuff ourselves with delicious new year dishes," she added.

Rowan Kuang, sales manager of the Hyatt Regency

Saipan, said that when you say new year in the Chinese tradition, family immediately comes to mind.

"The most important thing is family and, normally, we have dinner in big portions on a day before the new year and



Kuang

try to have the most expensive food. On the first year of the new year, I know people love to go to temples to see the Buddha to make a wish for the incoming year. Here on Saipan, people go to the Buddha on Banzai Cliff," he said.

According to **Xian Chen**, who hails from Guangdong China, Chinese new year traditions vary in different provinces in China. "The tradition in my province of Guangdong is that the daughter who is already married cannot go to



Chen

her mother's house on the first day of the new year. Only the son can greet the mother 'Gong Hei Fat Choi.' But on the second day of the year, the married daughter can visit her mother to give money,"

conditions.

Meanwhile, at 1:50pm yesterday, a report of a 5.1 magnitude earthquake occurred 58 kilometers north of Farallon de Parajos in the Northern Marianas Islands. Currently, no tsunami warnings or advisories were issued by the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center.

For more information, contact the CNMI EOC State Warning Point at 237-8000. (PR)



POSITION TITLE: Hotel Manager – Saipan Vegas Resort

REPORTS TO: General Manager

POSITION SUMMARY:

The Hotel Manager is responsible for all aspects of operations at the hotel and provides support to the General Manager of Saipan Vegas. Directs and coordinates hotels activities to obtain optimum efficiency and economy of operations and maximize full potential with a balanced focus on hotels mission, guests, employees and owner's satisfaction.

HOTEL MANAGER DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES INCLUDES:

- Assist the General Manager in his day to day operations.
- Assigns duties to HOD's and observers' performance to ensure adherence to hotel policies and established operating procedures.
- Provides training to staff and HOD's.
- Acts as the hotels public relations director and promotes the property within the hotel industry, local community and trade associations.
- Monitor the Guest feedback on Trip advisor, OTA's etc. and hotels GSTS and RSTS surveys.
- Receives and resolved or assists the General manager in resolving guest complaints and service recovery process.
- Selects or assist in the selection of hotel staff and completes all new hire paper works.
- Review employee performance and conducts personnel actions such as disciplinary actions and terminations.
- Ensures, the accounting department, maintains accurate records including monthly profit and loss accounts and cash flows, guest floor limit, AR Ageing reports, Direct billing etc.
- Assisting General Manager during staff meetings or conducts the morning HOD meetings in the absence of General Manager.
- Adheres to all company procedures and regulations as well as standard operating procedures.
- Ensure full compliance to Hotel operating controls, SOP's, policies, procedures and service standards.
- Ensures the objectives and goals of Saipan Vegas Resort and property owners work together to achieve brand positioning and success.
- Builds owner loyalty through proactive communication, setting and managing expectations and delivering solid business results.
- Assist GM in key property issues including capital projects, customer service and refurbishment.
- Assist General Manager in wage scale surveys and ensures employee wages are followed by the company and industry salary guidelines.
- Performs daily, weekly and monthly property inspections.
- Ensures property, grounds, physical plant and work areas maintained to standard.
- Builds strong working relationships and communications with hotel staff, HOD's and other departments to ensure maximum operating effectiveness and fulfilment of special event need.
- Cover shifts in all departments as scheduled by the General Manager.
- Monitor maintenance progress and FF&E (Furniture, Furnishings, and Equipment) conditions and provide status report to GM.
- Audits on par stock on all areas to make sure that all required hotel supplies are ordered and stocked in advance of need.
- Performs sudden audits on rooms and other operating areas.
- Provide effective leadership to hotel team members.
- Ensure hotel staff is provided with uniforms and name tags, and upholds property grooming standards.
- Ensures effective, timely and accurate communications flow with regards to hotel policies and procedures.
- Assist the GM in all aspects of business planning.
- Must be available 24/7 in case to respond to any guest or employee emergencies.
- Corporate client handling and take part in new client acquisition along with the sales team whenever required.
- Assisting in residential sales as and when required and development with strong sales prospects.
- Respond to audits to ensure continual improvement is achieved.
- All Other duties as assigned by the General Manager or Management.

PREREQUISITES:

Strong management skills, ability to appropriately assign or delegate work and authority to others in the accomplishment of goals. And provide coaching, advice and assistance as required. Available to work when needed, including weekends, holidays, and nights.

EDUCATION:

A university degree or diploma in hotel management or a related field with experience in opening, managing or re-positioning a hotel with clear track record, will be highly regarded or appropriate relevant hotel experience. Experience in financial accounting, personnel supervision and problem resolutions is an added advantage. Excellent computer system skills.

EXPERIENCE:

At least 3-5 years' experience in the hospitality industry, with front of house and hotel operations experience.

SALARY:

\$3,000 - \$5,000 monthly

ANTICIPATED DATE OF EMPLOYMENT:

February 1, 2020

You may submit your resume and application to Mr. Gus Noble via e-mail to: gusnoble@hotmail.com.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER

Strong winds, rough seas this weekend

The public is being warned of strong winds and rough seas this week. A small craft advisory remains in effect through Sunday night.

Based on the information received from the National Weather Service in Tiyan, Guam, and compiled at the CNMI Emergency Operations Center State Warning Point, fresh to strong east winds will continue across the region through the weekend with

combined seas of 9 to 11 feet.

East winds of 15 to 20 knots will have wind gusts in excess of 25 knots. Combined seas of 9 to 11 feet are also projected within the coastal waters of the Mariana islands through Sunday night. Small craft can be blown off course or be capsized.

The EOC is advising the public and inexperienced mariners, especially those operating smaller vessels, should avoid sailing in these

2020 is the Year of the Rat

In the Western world, rats are typically associated with filth and are considered pests. Not in the East. In Chinese culture, rats are a sign of wealth and surplus. Because they're so good at reproducing, married couples pray to them for children.

The Rat is the first of all Chinese zodiac animals. It is believed that zodiac signs came from a myth about a competition called by the first god Yu Huang or Jade Emperor to decide the cycle of the zodiac animals and the zodiac's order was determined

by the order in which they arrived to the party. Reportedly, the rat asked the ox to take him on a ride to cross the river and then jumped down before the ox crossed the finish line, so the rat won the race and became the first of the zodiac animals. That is why every Chinese new year is represented by animals and it is also believed that people born in a year that represents a particular animal shares its traits and personality.

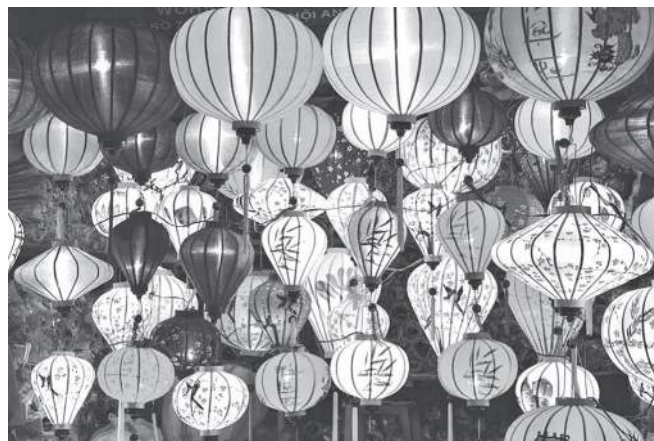
The 12 zodiac animals are the Rat, Ox, Rabbit, Dragon, Snake, Horse, Goat, Monkey,

Rooster, Dog and Pig. The entire cycle is repeated every 12 years. 2020 is considered the Year of the Rat.

Recent years of the Rat are 1924, 1936, 1948, 1960, 1972, 1984, 1996, 2008, 2020. It is said that those who are born in the Year of the Rat are clever, quick thinkers; successful, but content with living a quiet and peaceful life.

The new year is also associated with many beliefs that have become part of the tradition of ushering in the Chinese new year.

Gavin Lam, owner of



Casa Décor on Middle Road, said that putting bright lights in your home is a good luck charm. "I recommend them to get beautiful bright lights to light up their new year and

future," he said.

Blue is the color of 2020, according to florist **Roberto Barcelo** of New Paradise Flower Shop on Middle Road. "Many of our Chinese clients are ordering blue flowers from us because they say that is the lucky color for 2020. They get blue roses and ask for arrangements tied in blue ribbons," he said.

"Many of them also buy the lucky bamboo plants from us because each stalk represents love, wealth, health, and happiness. The more stalks the bamboo has, the more luck will come to anyone who owns it," he added.

Red decor, lanterns, and couplets are a must in homes and businesses, according to

Gavin Lam, owner of Casa Décor on Middle Road, said that putting bright lights in your home is a good luck charm.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

vendor **Racquel Tan** of Garapan. "Bright red décor outside of the house are believed to scare away evil spirits. We have many couplets and the Chinese character Fu outside our house. We hang them upside down to invite the arrival of good luck to our family and business," she said.

Fish, pork dishes, and dumplings are a must in welcoming the new year, according to Majesty Chinese Restaurant manager **Cheli Chunxiang**. "Fish symbolizes savings for the incoming year and intends to welcome prosperity in your home or business. Pig knuckles, which pigs use to get food close to them, are also served during the new year as this symbolizes retention of wealth," she said.

"Dumplings representing union, harmony and wealth. Usually each family member helps to make dumplings. Peking duck is of course always present in any Chinese celebration because it is tradition," she said. *(Bea Cabrera)*

TINIAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
"Car Rental Concessions"

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-002-20
for
CPA Concession No. CRT-2020-01
CPA Concession No. CRT-2020-02

The Commonwealth Ports Authority ("CPA" or "Authority") is soliciting proposals for the award of two (2) concessions granting the privilege to provide motor vehicle rental services to the traveling public (including the provision of insurance related to motor vehicles rented in the operation of such motor vehicle rental services) at the Tinian International Airport ("Car Rental Concessions"). The successful proposer will be expected to provide motor vehicle rental services in accordance with its concession and concession agreement at the Tinian International Airport for a period of two years upon entering into a concession agreement with the Authority.

The date of issuance of CPA-RFP-002-20 is **December 20, 2019**, and it can be obtained at the issuing office: CPA Administration Office, Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950, Second floor of Arrival terminal at the Saipan International Airport.

Proposals must be addressed to Commonwealth Ports Authority, Attn: Car Rental Concessions Evaluation Committee, CPA Administration Office, Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950; and submitted to and received by the CPA Administration Office (second floor of arrival terminal at the Saipan International Airport) **by or before 4:30 p.m. on January 31, 2020**, at which time the proposal period shall expire. Proposals must be accompanied with a non-refundable administrative fee of \$200.00 (cashier's checks made out to Commonwealth Ports Authority) to defray the costs associated with handling and considering the proposal. Proposals are not required to include a prepaid minimum concession fee.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to cancel this RFP and to reject any and all proposals in accordance with its Concession Regulations (NMIAC Chapter 40-70).

CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
CNMI GOVERNMENT
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION STATEMENTS
FOR CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES
PORT OF SAIPAN BERTH 103 REPAIRS
PROJECT NO. CPA-SS-001-17

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting statements of professional qualifications from interested Consultants for Construction Management Services for Berth 103 Repairs at the Port of Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project is being funded by the CPA. This project is in accordance with CPA's Procurement Rules and Regulations and procedures shall be in full compliance with Section 40-50-202 Architect-Engineer Design and Construction Management Services.

The Request for Qualification (RFQ) Package is available at CPA's Office of the Executive Director, 2nd floor of the arrival terminal. No fee is required for obtaining the proposal package. The statements of professional qualification will be evaluated based on the criteria outlined in the RFQ package.

Questions regarding this RFQ shall be addressed to Ms. Wendi L. Prater, CPA Executive Assistant/Project Manager and delivered to the CPA Executive Director's office, faxed to (670) 234-5962, or emailed to cpa.engr@pticom.com and wprater@cpa.gov.mp by no later than **Friday, January 24, 2020, 5:00 p.m.**, local time.

Interested Consultants are requested to submit one (1) original, four (4) copies and one (1) electronic version in .pdf of their statements of professional qualifications. Qualification statements shall be submitted by no later than **5:00 p.m., FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2020 (CHST)**. Statements of qualification must be presented by a combination of both brochures and the use of current U.S. Government Standard Form 330.

The CPA reserves the right to reject any or all statements of professional qualification for any reason, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in its best interest.

Send information to: Mr. Christopher S. Tenorio
Executive Director
Commonwealth Ports Authority
P.O. Box 501055
Saipan, MP 96950-1055

/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

Date: January 2, 2020

FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
AIRPORT FIRE STATION ROLL UP DOOR REPLACEMENT

PROJECT NO. CPA-SA-001-20

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CANCELLATION

Pursuant to Section **40-50-301(a)(2)** of our Procurement Rules and Regulations, the Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is hereby cancelling the above-referenced Request for Proposal (RFP) for procurement, delivery and installation of eight (8) stainless-steel brand-new roll up doors. CPA will be making necessary adjustments to the scope of work and specifications and will then repackage and re-advertise at a later date.

Any and all proposals submitted for this project will be **returned unopened**.

CPA appreciates the interest shown in this project and encourages all to participate in the future solicitation once re-advertised.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

Date: January 22, 2020

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: DPW20-ITB-009

SUBMISSION DATE: February 28, 2020 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"Route 315 (Quartermaster Road) and Route 33 (Beach Road) Intersection Improvements and Installation of Traffic Signal System"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, LOCATED ON SECOND FLOOR, OLEAI JOETEN COMMERCIAL CENTER, SAN JOSE, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

There will be a **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **February 12, 2020, 9:00 a.m.** local time at the Department of Public Works Conference Room 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center Office, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All question regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **February 19, 2020** to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/s/ JAMES A. ADA
SECRETARY, DPW

/s/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON
ACTING DIRECTOR, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP NO.: DPW20-RFP-003

SUBMISSION DATE: February 19, 2020 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"Engineering and Design Related Services for Route 310 (Tapochao Road) Improvements, Saipan"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, LOCATED ON SECOND FLOOR, OLEAI JOETEN COMMERCIAL CENTER, SAN JOSE, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

A Mandatory PRE-PROPOSAL SITE VISIT WILL BE HELD ON January 30, 2020 AT 9:00 A.M., LOCAL TIME AT THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS CONFERENCE ROOM.

QUESTIONS MUST BE MADE IN WRITING TO Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS February 7, 2020. THESE QUESTIONS WILL BE ANSWERED WITHIN THREE (3) BUSINESS DAYS AND WILL BE SHARED WITH ALL PROPOSERS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/s/ JAMES A. ADA
SECRETARY OF PUBLIC WORKS

/s/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON
ACTING DIRECTOR, P&S

SCC thanks sponsors of tomorrow’s BPOY gala




The Saipan Chamber of Commerce would like to thank the generous sponsors of the 2019 Business Person of the Year Gala, who are all contributing to the success of the “Roaring Twenties” themed gala tomorrow, Jan. 25, 2020. Event sponsors, who are contributing with financial or in-kind support of the event, include Coca-Cola Beverage Co. (Micronesia)/Foremost Foods, D&Q Distributors, D&R Visuals, E-Land Group/Pacific Islands Club Saipan, Marianas Pacific Distributors, and Topnotch. One of the highlights of the evening is the silent auction with items contributed by Chamber members. There are over 10 silent auc-




tion packages, with prizes such as one United Airlines roundtrip ticket valid for travel between Guam/Saipan, Micronesia and United States via Honolulu; a Samsung Galaxy Note 10 plus three months free wireless service; a Vizio 50” D-Series Class 1080P LED TV; a 55” Samsung UHD TV 6 Series NU6950; and much, much more, thanks to silent auction sponsors. Silent auction sponsors, whose donations will help raise money for scholarships

Continued on Next Page



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950-1220 U.S.A.
Tel. Nos. (670) 664-4282 Fax (670) 235-5131



JVA No. 20-030

Opening Date: January 21, 2020
Closing Date: February 3, 2020

Engineer, Senior
(Diesel Power Plant)

Duties: The Engineer Senior is distinguished by his/her ability to view the engineer designs and projects. Under the direct supervision of the Power Generation Manager or his/her designee. The Engineer Senior position will have accountability and responsibility dedicated to supervising the engineering functions in the Power Plant. Focus on the application of technical skills required in the analysis and reporting of plant electrical equipment and related systems, Maintain equipment and machinery within the standard operating conditions and evaluate performance as needed per Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) recommendations, Oversee operation, maintenance and repairs of plan equipment and auxiliaries to ensure adherence within applicable specification and OEM standard. Compiling running hours and preventive maintenance performed of each engine/equipment and machinery and prepare preventive maintenance scheduling. Prepare engineering design calculations, engineering drawings, utilizing programs and Computer Aided Design (CAD). Prepare a variety of engineering monthly reports and correspondence. Perform equipment failure analysis of equipment/machineries/auxiliaries and prepare incident reports. Compiling data and preparing regulatory reports; operate and maintain complex instrumentation, equipment and/or testing equipment; Troubleshooting complex maintenance and operational problems; Diagnose and perform mechanical failure analysis and provide recommendation to prevent reoccurrence. Supervise other Trades staff including assisting in the performance evaluations and coordinating training; Ensures that employees follow policies and procedures and maintain a healthy and safe working environment; Prepare schedule of activities or special projects and ensures necessary parts, materials and tools are available; Provides technical advice, support and guidance to staff, other CUC department and other agencies; Performs technical design on mechanical system; Performs inventory and supply checks of tools, equipment, parts and materials; Identifies resource needs and processes requisitions. Ensures availability of resources to meet project and operational needs; Gathers and compiles data's, prepares and maintains regulatory and status reporting; Performs inspections of projects and operations; Ensures policies and procedures are adhered to, and that service quality and productivity levels are maintained; Processing requisitions to meet resource needs for projects and operations. Preparing and maintaining regulatory, status reports and related documentation. Attends to trouble calls after normal hours; Practices SAFETY; Cleans, organizes and maintains work areas; Performs other duties of a similar nature and level as assigned.

LOCATION : Power Generation, SAIPAN, Northern Mariana Islands, USA
(If needed, there may be periodic assignment to other divisions of CUC and/or other islands.)

SALARY : \$45,326.00 to \$61,190.00 per annum, exempt (Commensurate with Qualification and Experience)

POSITION : One (1)

CONTRACT : Two (2) years, subject to renewal

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS: Bachelor's Degree in Engineering and four (4) years of general professional, engineering experience. **Knowledge of:** Applicable Federal, Commonwealth and local laws, codes, regulations and/or ordinances; Engineering Principles, practices and procedures of assigned service area. Mathematical concepts; Inventory maintenance practices; Inspection procedures; Safety procedures and safe work practices; Modern office technology. Skills in: Interpreting and applying applicable laws, codes, regulations and standards. Monitoring, evaluating, prioritizing and assigning specific duties to staff. Preparing a variety of technical reports and/or documentation. Presenting technical information to management, public groups, and other related individuals. Preparing specifications plans, and cost estimates. Performing and overseeing skilled journey level maintenance, operations and installation. Performing inspections of projects and operations to ensure quality and productivity levels. Ensuring the adherence to policies and procedures. Troubleshooting complex maintenance and operational issues. Recommending and implementing solutions. Utilizing CAD programs to prepare plans for small projects and exhibits; Utilizing a computer and relevant software applications. Utilizing communication and interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, and others to sufficiently exchange or convey information and to receive work direction. Applicants may be tested and are subject to pre-employment drug testing.

You may submit your CUC Employment Application and/or resume at the Human Resources office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Applicants on the Island of Tinian and Rota can drop it off at the Tinian and Rota Administration office. Application and resume can also be e-mailed to: employment.applications@cucgov.org

An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer
P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950-1220 U.S.A. | Tel. Nos. (670) 235-7025 to 32 Fax (670) 235-5131



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: <http://www.nmhc.gov.net>



JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

OPENING DATE: January 24, 2020 • CLOSING DATE: February 11, 2020
TIME: 10:00 A.M.

NMHC JVA No.	Positions:	Salary:
2020-001	Chief Financial Officer (CFO)	UNGRADED \$60,000.00 to \$70,000.00-per annum
2020-002	CDBG-DR Project Manager – <i>In-House Announcement</i>	UNGRADED \$50,000.00 to \$60,000.00-per annum
2020-003	CDBG-DR Compliance Manager – <i>In-House Announcement</i>	UNGRADED \$50,000.00 to \$60,000.00-per annum

Employment application form, detailed job description, qualification requirements and other information may be picked up, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan during regular working hours, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays. You may also access the application online at www.nmhcgov.net.

All applicants must complete and submit the NMHC Employment Application Form together with required documents that are listed in the Employment Application Package. Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. NMHC and all its properties are drug-free zones; therefore, selected applicant will be subject to pre-employment drug screening.

It is the policy of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) that the merit system will be applied and administered according to the principle of equal opportunity for all citizens and nationals as defined by its personnel regulations and the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Constitution regardless of age, race, sex, religion, political affiliation or belief, marital status, disability or place of origin.

For inquiries, please contact Mr. Jacob Muna, Office Manager, at (670) 234-6866/9447 or by email to officemanager@nmhcgov.net. NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer.

/s/ JESSE S. PALACIOS
Corporate Director



Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax: (670) 234-5749
Attorney for Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST, Plaintiff,
vs.
CLARISSA M. FEJERAN and WATSON SAM, Defendants.

Civil Action No. 10-0312
NOTICE OF AUCTION and JUDICIAL SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that under and by virtue of a judgment made and entered in the above titled action on the 15th day of January, 2019, by the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to satisfy the amount found and adjudged due Plaintiff in the above titled action from Defendants, as prescribed in the Order Approving Judicial Sale of Mortgaged Property, the undersigned counsel or his designee will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the **27th day of February, 2020 at 11:00 a.m.**, at the Marianas Public Land Trust Conference Room, Capitol Hill, Saipan, the premises and real estate, lying and being on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, described in said judgment, to wit:

Tract 21988-18, (part of original Tract 21988, AH 623) as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 2004/84, the original of which was recorded on November 18, 1983, as Documents No. 83-239 at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan.

Terms and Conditions of Sale.
1. **Rights and duties of Auctioneer.** Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer or his designee shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:

- a) withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
- b) to adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
- c) to reject any and all bids.

2. **Bids.** Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, fax or by e-mail to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950, Fax: 670-234-5749; Email: rttlaw@pticom.com.

3. **Deposit and Payment.** A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check, or money order. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 10% deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the property will revert to Marianas Public Land Trust.

4. **Change of Terms.** Auctioneer and Marianas Public Land Trust reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct an enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.

5. **Inspection and No Warranty.** Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. Contact the Law Office of Robert T. Torres for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the property is being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

DATED this 11th day of December, 2019.

/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer



KIMBERLYN K. KING-HINDS (F0495)
LAW OFFICE OF KIMBERLYN K. KING-HINDS
P.O. Box 520064
San Jose Village
Tinian, MP 96952
Tel. No.: 670-484-1117
Email Address: kkinghinds@gmail.com

Attorney for Petitioner
Maria Cecilia G. Carbales

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: Flaviano D. Guerrero Decedent.

Civil Action No. 20-0004T
NOTICE OF HEARING FOR PETITION FOR LETTER OF ADMINISTRATION
Date: February 20, 2020
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Courtroom: Tinian
Courthouse
Judge: Kenneth L. Govendo

TO: ALL HEIRS, DEVISEES, LEGATEES AND CREDITORS OF FLAVIANO D. GUERRERO, DECEASED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Petitioner, Maria Cecilia G. Carbales, has filed with the Clerk of this Court a Petition for Appointment of an Administrator for the Estate of Flaviano D. Guerrero, deceased. The attorney of record is Kimberlyn Kay King-Hinds of P.O. Box 64, Tinian, MP 96952. The petition is set for hearing at 9:00 a.m. on February 20, 2020 at the Tinian Courthouse, Tinian, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Respectfully submitted this 8th day of January, 2020.

/s/ Kimberlyn K. Kiung-Hinds - F0495
Attorney for Petitioner

Joseph Feja Sakisat
295 Buenas Tades Street
PO Box 7070 SVRB
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone No.: (670) 285-3269

PRO SE

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In the Matter of the
Petition for the
Change of Name
of:
Petitioner:
Joseph Feja
Sakisat

FCD CN CIVIL ACTION NO. 20-0011
NOTICE OF HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on March 16, 2020, at 9:00a.m. in Courtroom MBP before Honorable Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio.

Dated this 15th day of January, 2020.

Patrick V. Diaz
Clerk of Court
/s/ By: Deputy Clerk of Court

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122
THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC
POST OFFICE BOX 5222
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950
TEL: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9537

Attorney for Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

BANK OF SAIPAN)
Plaintiff) CIVIL ACTION
-v-) NO. 01-0044
LUIS A. SASAMOTO)
Defendant.)

SIXTH AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to a Judgment issued by the Court in this matter on March 8, 2017, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendant in and to the following property:

Legal Description of the property: Lot no. 060 T 01, situated in Tinian, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 10,000 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Division of Lands and Surveys Official Cadastral Plat no. 060 T 00 dated October 12, 1990, Commonwealth Recorder's File no. 91-083, dated January 3, 1991, the description therein being incorporated herein by reference.

Total area of the property: 10,000 square meters

Known encumbrances: Defendant is believed to be the owner an undivided one-half interest in the property.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, February 7, 2020, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at the Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public. A copy of a title insurance report for the property is available to any prospective bidder upon request.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 6th day of January 2020:

MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

TINIAN CASINO GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION
Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission (TCGCC) hereby gives notice that it will hold its Regular Meeting on Thursday, January 30, 2020, at 9:00 a.m. at the TCGCC Conference Room.

AGENDA

- I. PRELIMINARY**
 - a. Call to Order
 - b. Roll Call
 - c. Adoption of Agenda
 - d. Adoption of Minutes
 - 1. November 27, 2019—Regular Meeting (rescheduled to December 26, 2019)
- II. PUBLIC COMMENTS¹**
- III. REPORTS**
 - a. Chair's Report
 - b. Executive Director's Report
- IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
 - a. By-Laws
- V. NEW BUSINESS**
 - a. Licensing Matters
 - 1. Bridge Investment Group, LLC
 - 2. Clear Management, Ltd.
- VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION²**
- VII. MISCELLANEOUS/ ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**
- VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

¹ Public Comments are limited to 30 minutes and each remark is limited to 3 minutes. Everyone is welcomed to submit written comments.
² Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Commission may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

From Page 23

and educational programs, include 500 Sails, Angil Design, Calvo's Insurance, DFS T Galleria, Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, IT&E, J.C. Tenorio Ent., Kanoa Resort, Let'sGo Tours, Marianas Business Plaza, Marianas Pacific Distributors, Pacific Islands Club Saipan, Pacific Trading Co., Triple J Saipan, and United Airlines.

Nominee sponsors ensured the attendance of nominees by sponsorship of tickets, which include Aon Insurance, Hyatt Regency Saipan, and the PSS Board of Education.

Table sponsors of the event include Calvo's Insurance, Docomo Pacific, Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, IT&E, J.C. Tenorio Ent., Pacific Island Club Saipan, TanHoldings, and Triple J Saipan.

Additional thanks to the Northern Marianas College Business Club for volunteering their time to support the event.

The winner of the 2019 Business Person of the Year will be honored during the evening, as well as the 2019 Small Business of the Year, 2019 Nonprofit of the Year, 2019 Saipan Young Professional of the Year, and 2019 Chamber Member of the Year.

Tickets must be purchased in advance. Tickets are \$100 per person and include a formal sit-down dinner, networking, and a night celebrating the movers and shakers of our community. To purchase tickets, contact the office before 12pm today, Jan. 24, by emailing Noelani McMahon at coordinator2@saipanchamber.com, calling (670) 234-7150, or visiting the Chamber office on the third floor of the Marianas Business Plaza, Suite 315. (PR)

Business

Saudi prince's WhatsApp is linked to Bezos phone hack

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP)—The cellphone of Amazon founder and Washington Post owner Jeff Bezos was hacked in what appeared to be an attempt by Saudi Arabia's crown prince to "influence, if not silence" the newspaper's reporting on the kingdom, two U.N. human rights experts said Wednesday.

The U.N. experts called for an "immediate investigation" by the United States into a report commissioned by Bezos that showed the billionaire technology mogul's phone was likely hacked after he received an MP4 video file sent from Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman's WhatsApp account after the two men exchanged phone numbers during a dinner in Los Angeles in 2018.

The video file was sent to Bezos' phone five months before Saudi critic and Washington Post columnist Jamal Khashoggi was killed by Saudi government agents inside the Saudi consulate in Turkey in October. At the time, the crown prince was being widely hailed for ushering in major social reforms to the kingdom, but Khashoggi was writing columns in the Post that highlighted the darker side of Prince Mohammed's simultaneous clampdown on dissent.

The Post was harshly critical of the Saudi government after Khashoggi's killing and demanded accountability in a highly public campaign that ran in the paper for weeks after his death.

"The information we have received suggests the possible involvement of the Crown Prince in surveillance of Mr. Bezos, in an effort to influence, if not silence, The Washington Post's reporting on Saudi Arabia," the independent U.N. experts said.

At a time when Saudi Arabia was "supposedly investigating the killing of Mr. Khashoggi, and prosecuting those it deemed responsible, it was clandestinely waging a massive online campaign against Mr. Bezos and Amazon targeting him principally as the owner of The Washington Post," the experts said.

Bezos first went public about the hack last year. He said the National Enquirer tabloid, whose owner has ties to the crown prince, was threatening to publish Bezos' private messages and photos if he didn't stop a private investigation he'd sought into the hacking of his phone.



In this Oct. 14, 2019 file photo, Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman speaks to Russian President Vladimir Putin during the talks in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

Iyad el-Baghadi, an activist who worked with Bezos' investigators, told The Associated Press it appears the hacking was about free speech. "It's not about trying to compromise a businessman for business purposes," he said. "It's not about Amazon, it's about The Washington Post."

Saudi Arabia's foreign minister, Prince Faisal bin Farhan Al Saud, called the hacking allegations "absolutely illegitimate."

"There was no information in there that's relevant. There was no substantiation, there was no evidence," he told an AP reporter at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland. "It was purely conjecture, and if there is real evidence, we look forward to seeing it."

The independent experts, Agnes Callamard, special rapporteur on summary executions and extrajudicial killings, and David Kaye, special rapporteur on freedom of expression, were appointed by the U.N. Human Rights Council. They published their statement after reviewing the report conducted by FTI Consulting, which was hired by Bezos' security adviser to manage the investigation. The report was published in full exclusively by VICE's Motherboard later on Wednesday.

The digital forensic investigation assessed with "medium to high confidence" that Bezos' phone was infiltrated on May 1, 2018, via the video file sent from the crown prince's WhatsApp account.

The U.N. experts said that records showed that within hours of receiving the video from Prince Mohammed's account, there was "an anomalous and extreme change in phone behavior" with enormous amounts of data being transmitted and exfiltrated from the phone, undetected,

over months.

The report stated that Bezos' phone was compromised "possibly via tools procured by Saud al-Qahtani," the former adviser to the crown prince who was sanctioned by the U.S. for his suspected role in orchestrating the operation that killed Khashoggi.

Saudi Arabia's justice system found al-Qahtani not guilty of any wrongdoing in the killing. A judge sentenced five people to death and sentenced three others to a combined 24 years in prison in December for Khashoggi's slaying.

Al-Qahtani was also head of Saudi Arabia's cybersecurity federation and allegedly behind campaigns that created artificially-trending tweets to attack the prince's perceived enemies, rally support around the leadership and stymie criticism on social media.

The full investigative report, reviewed by The Associated Press, found that due to end-to-end encryption, it was virtually impossible to decrypt the contents of the downloader to determine if it did indeed have any malicious code.

Saudi Arabia has already been accused of spying in America in a case involving Twitter. U.S. prosecutors in California allege that the Saudi government, frustrated by growing criticism of its leaders and policies on social media, recruited two Twitter employees to gather confidential personal information on thousands of accounts that included prominent opponents.

Adam S. Hickey, deputy assistant attorney general of the U.S. Department of Justice's National Security Division, would not confirm or deny a U.S. investigation of the latest allegations was underway, but said "we investigate nation state-sponsored hacking all the time."

Nation

ACROSS THE NATION

People who had contact with man with virus to be monitored

SHORELINE, Wash. (AP)—Health officials said Wednesday they are actively monitoring 16 people who came into close contact with the traveler to China who became the first U.S. resident with a new and potentially deadly virus. The man, identified as a Snohomish County, Washington, resident is in his 30s, was in good condition and wasn't considered a threat to the public. The hospitalized man had no symptoms when he arrived at the Seattle-Tacoma airport last week, but he started feeling ill. He had traveled to China in November, flying home to Washington state Jan. 15 before the start of U.S. airport screening. Investigators will make daily phone calls to those 16 who had contact with him, including some who sat near him on his flight, to check if they have symptoms. They will not be asked to isolate themselves unless they start feeling ill. "This may be a novel virus, but this is not a novel investigation," said John Wiesman of the Washington State Department of Health at a Wednesday briefing for reporters. The patient is doing well in an isolation unit at Providence Regional Medical Center in Everett, about 30 miles north of Seattle.

4 killed in plane crash at Southern California airfield

CORONA, Calif. (AP)—Four people were killed Wednesday in the crash of a small airplane at a Southern California airfield, authorities said. The plane went down at Corona Municipal Airport, about 40 miles (64 kilometers) east of Los Angeles, police said. Firefighters found the plane burning in brush on the east side of the airport, not far from one end of the runway. Four fatalities were confirmed, the Corona Fire Department said on Twitter. Witness Dorothe Voll said she saw the plane strike a fence during takeoff, turn over and quickly catch fire. It got no more than about 3 feet off the ground, she told the Orange County Register.

Teen charged as adult in fatal family shooting in Utah

SALT LAKE CITY (AP)—A Utah teenager shot and killed his mother and sister as they returned from school pickup, then waited for two more siblings to come home and killed them, prosecutors said Wednesday. Colin "CJ" Haynie, 16, tried to kill his fa-

ther as well, but the older man managed to wrestle a handgun away despite a gunshot wound to the leg, prosecutors said in court documents. The boy from the small town of Grantsville west of Salt Lake City was charged with 10 felonies, including aggravated murder and discharge of a firearm.

2nd California child molester dies after beating with cane

CORCORAN, Calif. (AP)—A second convicted child molester has died after he was beaten with a walking cane by another inmate last week at a central California prison, officials said Wednesday. Graham De Luis-Conti, 62, was pronounced dead on Sunday at a hospital, three days after authorities said he was attacked at California Substance Abuse Treatment Facility and State Prison in the small central city of Corcoran, corrections officials said in a statement. They said Jonathan Watson, 41, used the cane to beat the heads of both inmates. David Bobb, 48, died en route to the hospital. Both victims were serving life prison sentences for aggravated sexual assault of a child under 14 years old.

Democrats appeal for GOP help to convict 'corrupt' Trump

WASHINGTON (AP) — House Democrats launched into marathon arguments in President Donald Trump's impeachment trial Wednesday, appealing to skeptical Republican senators to join them in voting to oust Trump from office to "protect our democracy." Trump's lawyers sat by, waiting their turn, as the president blasted the proceedings from afar, threatening jokingly to face off with the Democrats by coming to "sit right in the front row and stare at their corrupt faces." The challenge before the House managers is clear. Democrats have 24 hours over three days to prosecute the charges against Trump, trying to win over not just fidgety senators sitting silently in the chamber but an American public, deeply divided over the president and his impeachment in an election year. Rep. Adam Schiff, chairman of the House Intelligence Committee, outlined what the Democrats contend was the president's "corrupt scheme" to abuse his presidential power and then obstruct Congress' investigation. He then called on senators not to be "cynical" about politics, but to draw on the intent of the nation's Founding Fathers who provided the remedy of impeachment.

Judge hints he may rule for migrants in Border Patrol suit

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP) — A judge indicated Wednesday he may side with migrants in a lawsuit that alleges extreme overcrowding and inhumane conditions at some of the Border Patrol's facilities in Arizona. U.S. District Court Judge David C. Bury criticized the lack of measures taken by the Border Patrol to address persistent overcrowding and lengthy times in custody. He didn't say exactly when he would rule but indicated it would be the end of next week at the earliest. "Nobody has done anything. Is that why a court has to jump in?" Bury asked. "It just seems like the lack of a response to these numbers just calls for a court order." Attorneys representing migrants who have been held in the agency's facilities in the Tucson sector want Bury to issue a broad order forcing the Border Patrol to improve several aspects of detention. Primarily, they want migrants to have access to beds after a certain amount of time in custody, but also want the judge to require the agency to provide more layers of clothing, access to showers, food that's assessed by a nutritionist and the ability to dim lights in sleeping facilities.

Man accused of stabbing woman, hiding body in closet, fridge

KETTERING, Ohio (AP)—A man accused of fatally stabbing an Ohio woman, hiding her in a closet and a refrigerator and continuing to live in her apartment for days before the body was found in a nearby dumpster, has been arraigned on charges including murder. Terrel Ross, 37, of Dayton, also was arraigned Wednesday in Kettering Municipal Court on charges of felonious assault, tampering with evidence and gross abuse of a corpse in the slaying of Sierra Woodfork, 24, of Kettering. Court records didn't show an attorney for Ross, who did not enter any pleas during the video arraignment. Woodfork's body was found Saturday in a trash bin near where she lived, but her body had been hidden in a closet and a refrigerator before she was put in the dumpster, police said in court records. Police said they found blood throughout her apartment and a knife and other items in the trash at the apartment. Bond for Ross was continued at \$1 million. He is scheduled for a preliminary hearing next Wednesday.

Asia

China closes large city to stop spread of virus

BEIJING (AP)—China closed off a city of more than 11 million people Thursday, halting transportation and warning against public gatherings, to try to stop the spread of a deadly new virus that has sickened hundreds and spread to other cities and countries in the Lunar New Year travel rush.

Police, SWAT teams and paramilitary troops stood guard at entrances to Wuhan's train station. Travelers were arriving up to the last minute, with only those holding tickets for the last trains allowed to enter. Virtually everyone at the scene was wearing masks, news website The Paper's live broadcast showed.

At exactly 10 a.m., metal barriers were placed over entrances while helpless would-be travelers milled in front. People who were booked on trains beyond the deadline were turned away, with some complaining they weren't notified and now had nowhere to go.

City residents appeared to be going about their daily business, while taking preventive measures. People lined up to buy face masks, with pharmacies limited sales to one package per customer. Medical workers wore protective suits outside Wuhan Medical Treatment Center, where some patients with the viral respiratory illness are being treated.

Local authorities have demanded all residents wear masks in public places and urged government staff to wear them at work and for shopkeepers to post signs for their visitors, Xinhua quoted a government notice as saying. "Those who disregard the warning will be punished according to relevant laws and regulations," the notice said.

Virtually no one would be allowed to leave Wuhan, an industrial and transportation hub in central China's Hubei province. Train stations, the airport, subways, ferries and long-distance shuttle buses were closed. The official Xinhua News Agency. It cited the city's anti-virus task force as saying the measures were taken in an attempt to "effectively cut off the virus spread, resolutely curb the outbreak and guarantee the people's health and safety."

Li Bin, deputy director of the National Health Commission, had warned people in Wuhan on Wednesday to avoid crowds and public gatherings.

What to know about the virus

WHAT IS THE NEW VIRUS?

- The coronavirus family has many types that affect people. Some cause the common cold while others originating in bats, camels and other animals have evolved into more severe illnesses such as SARS.

WHERE DID IT COME FROM?

- The first cases appeared last month in Wuhan, a city in central China's Hubei province.

WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS?

- Symptoms of the coronavirus include fever, cough, tightness of the chest and shortness of breath. In serious cases, the virus can cause pneumonia.

HOW IS IT TREATED?

- There is a test to identify the virus, but no vaccine to prevent an infection. The symptoms are treated with pain and fever medication.

HOW IS IT SPREADING?

- Many coronaviruses can spread through coughing or sneezing, or by touching an infected person.

Source: AP
Graphic: Staff, TNS

erings.

The illnesses from a newly identified coronavirus first appeared last month in Wuhan, and the vast majority of mainland China's 571 cases have been in the city. Other cases have been reported in the Thailand, the United States, Japan and South Korea. One case was confirmed in the southern Chinese territory of Hong Kong after one was earlier confirmed in Macao. Most were people from Wuhan or had recently traveled there.

A total of 17 people have died, all of them in and around Wuhan. Among the victims, the average age was 73, with the oldest aged 89 and the youngest 48.

The significant increase in illnesses reported just this week come as millions of Chinese travel for the Lunar New Year, one of the world's largest annual migrations of people.

The coronavirus family includes the common cold as

well as viruses that cause more serious illnesses, such as the SARS outbreak that spread from China to more than a dozen countries in 2002-2003 and killed about 800 people, and Middle Eastern respiratory syndrome, which developed from camels.

The first cases in the Wuhan outbreak were connected to people who worked at or visited a seafood market, which has since been closed for an investigation. The head of the Chinese Center for Disease Control said the outbreak may have resulted from human exposure to wild animals at first but the virus also may be mutating. Mutations can make it deadlier or more contagious among people.

"We are still in the process of learning more about this disease," Gao Fu, the CCDC head and an academican of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, said at a Wednesday news conference.

Also Wednesday, the World Health Organization put off deciding whether to declare the outbreak a global health emergency and has another meeting set for Thursday.

"We need more information," WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said.

WHO defines a global emergency as an "extraordinary event" that constitutes a risk to other countries and requires a coordinated international response.

When asked about Wuhan's public transport shutdown, WHO chief Tedros said authorities were likely acting to prevent transmission and mass gatherings.

"We cannot say they have done something unusual," he said.

Some countries have stepped up screening measures for travelers from China, especially those arriving from Wuhan. North Korea has banned foreign tourists, a step it also took during the SARS outbreak and in recent years due to Ebola.

China has been credited for responding rapidly to this outbreak, in stark contrast to how it withheld information for months on SARS, allowing the virus to spread worldwide.

One veteran of the SARS outbreak said that while there are some similarities in the new virus—namely its origins in China and the link to animals—the current outbreak appears much milder.

World

Britain's Brexit bill passes final hurdle in Parliament



A view inside the House of Lords as the European Withdrawal Agreement Bill is debated in London, Tuesday, Jan. 21, 2020. AP

LONDON (AP)—Britain's Brexit bill passed its final hurdle in Parliament on Wednesday after the House of Lords abandoned attempts to amend it, leaving the U.K. on course to leave the European Union next week.

The bill was approved by Parliament's upper chamber after the House of Commons overturned changes to the government's flagship Brexit bill made a day earlier by the unelected House of Lords.

The bill will become law when it receives royal assent from Queen Elizabeth II, a formality that could come as soon as Thursday.

Britain is scheduled to leave the European Union on Jan. 31, more than three and a half years after voters opted for Brexit in a June 2016 referendum, and after many rounds of political wrangling.

"At times it felt like we would never cross the Brexit finish line, but we've done it," Prime Minister Boris Johnson said.

The Lords voted Tuesday to demand that post-Brexit Britain continues to let unaccompanied migrant chil-

dren in EU countries join relatives living in the U.K. The promise was made in 2018 by former British Prime Minister Theresa May, but it was removed from the Brexit legislation after Johnson's Conservatives won a big parliamentary majority in an election last month.

Johnson's government says it intends to continue resettling child migrants in Britain after the country leaves the EU but argues that the issue does not belong in the EU withdrawal bill, which sets out the terms of Britain's departure from the 28-nation bloc.

Brexit Secretary Stephen Barclay said an agreement on taking in the children "is ultimately a matter which must be negotiated with the EU, and the government is committed to seeking the best possible outcome in those negotiations."

But Labour lawmaker Yvette Cooper accused Johnson's Conservative government of planning to "betray the commitments that have been made to the most vulnerable children of all."

The House of Commons also stripped out changes made by the Lords to bolster the rights of EU citizens in Britain, protect the powers of U.K. courts and ensure a say for Scotland and Wales in post-Brexit legal changes.

The wrangling didn't stop the Brexit bill from becoming law, because the House of Commons can override the unelected Lords.

Members of the Lords acknowledged Wednesday that they would have to give way.

"We are at the end of a very long road," said Martin Callanan, a Conservative Brexit minister in the Lords.

The EU parliament also must approve the Brexit divorce deal before Jan. 31. A vote by the European Parliament is expected next week.

Despite Johnson's repeated promise to "get Brexit done" on Jan. 31, the departure will only mark the start of the first stage of the country's EU exit. Britain and the EU will then launch into negotiations on their future ties, racing to strike new relationships for trade, security and a host of other areas by the end of 2020.

Off The Wall

Cold-stunned iguanas falling from Florida trees

MIAMI (AP)—The National Weather Service routinely warns people about falling rain, snow and hail, but temperatures are dropping so low in South Florida the forecasters warned residents Tuesday about falling iguanas.

“This isn’t something we usually forecast, but don’t be surprised if you see Iguanas falling from the trees tonight as lows drop into the 30s and 40s. Brrrr!” NWS Miami tweeted.

The low temperatures stun the invasive reptiles, but the iguanas won’t necessarily die. That means many will wake up as temperatures rise Wednesday.

Iguanas aren’t dangerous or aggressive to humans, but they damage seawalls, sidewalks, landscape foliage and can dig lengthy tunnels. The males can grow to at least 5 feet (1.5 meters) long and weigh nearly 20 pounds (9 kilograms).

Female iguanas can lay nearly 80 eggs a year, and South Florida’s warm climate is perfect for the prehistoric-looking animals. Iguanas are native to Central America, tropical parts of South America and some Caribbean islands.

Iguanas are allowed to be kept as pets in Florida but are not protected by any law except anti-cruelty to animals. They’ve been in South Florida since the 1960s, but their numbers have increased dramatically in recent years.



A stunned baby iguana lies in the grass at Cherry Creek Park in Oakland Park, Fla., Wednesday, Jan. 22, 2020.

SUV on grounds of Beijing’s Forbidden City sparks outrage

BEIJING (AP)—A Chinese woman sparked social media outrage in her country by posting photos of herself and a friend with a Mercedes-Benz on the grounds of Beijing’s Forbidden City. The reaction prompted an apology from the management of China’s 600-year-old former imperial palace.

Vehicles have been banned since 2013 to protect the cultural dignity of the vast site and its hundreds of historic buildings, according to the official Xinhua News Agency. The palace was home to the Qing and Ming emperors, who ruled China for nearly five centuries.

“The Palace Museum was deeply distressed and sincerely apologizes to the public,” it said in a post Friday night on Weibo, a popular service similar to Twitter. It added that it would prevent a repetition of the incident “through strict management.”

The four photos played into public perceptions that people with connections have special privileges in China, though it wasn’t clear if the unidentified woman was from an influential family. The shots showed two young women in sunglasses and a black Mercedes SUV in front of the towering Gate of Supreme Harmony on a sunny winter day.

The woman said in another post that she and her friend had enjoyed the palace without the usual crowds on a Monday, when it is closed, the state-owned Global Times newspaper reported. The posts have been deleted, and she did not respond to a message sent to her Weibo account.

A man identified as the owner of the vehicle told the Beijing News that the woman is a friend who had been invited to an event at the palace, and that some guests had been allowed to drive into the grounds. The newspaper included audio clips of the interview in an online video post.

\$43,170 found in footstool

OWOSSO, Mich. (AP)—The footstool didn’t feel right. That’s what happens when someone stashes \$43,170 inside and apparently forgets about it.

Indeed, the money was discovered inside a footstool that was donated to a Michigan resale shop in Owosso Township.

Howard Kirby bought the piece and other furniture for \$70 after Christmas. He was stunned Sunday when his daughter-in-law unzipped the cushion and shouted. After the shock wore off, he began the extraordinary step of returning the money to the former owners.

“I do what I can to be as much like Christ as I can, and this is the moral thing to do,” Kirby, 54, said. “This is going to help them. I’m so happy for them.”

The footstool was part of a living room set donated to a Habitat For Humanity store by Kim Fauth-Newberry and her husband. The furniture had belonged to her grandfather, Phillip Fauth, who died in July.

Fauth-Newberry said Fauth was a frugal man who always paid in cash, even \$9,000 for a new roof. The newly discovered money was separated with paper clips and topped with handwritten notes.

“This is crazy,” Fauth-Newberry said Thursday, staring at stacks of hundred dollar bills.

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Nearly 100 beehives stolen from northern California orchard

YUBA CITY, Calif. (AP)—Authorities are investigating the theft of nearly 100 beehives from an orchard in northern California. The beehives, which are used to pollinate almond orchards, were discovered missing on Friday, beekeeper Mike Potts said.

He estimated that the theft of the 92 hives, about a third of his operation, would cost him about \$44,000 in revenue. “It’s hard enough keeping the bees alive without someone stealing them. It’s frustrating,” Potts told KCRA-TV. Potts, who is based in Oregon, suspects that another beekeeper who lost bees could be responsible for the theft and may have stolen hives before. Given the weight of the hives in addition to the boxes that hold them, he thinks the thief may have used a flatbed truck to drive them away.

Cops: Waze app directs casino-bound drivers into wilderness

JACKSON, N.J. (AP)—An ad in the Waze navigation app is misdirecting motorists headed to Atlantic City’s Borgata Hotel Casino & Spa

into the wilderness of New Jersey’s Pine Barrens, police said. Jackson Township police posted on Facebook that officers in recent weeks have had to help motorists who followed the directions into the Colliers Mills Wildlife Management Area, where they became stuck on unpaved roads.

“The wildlife area is comprised of more than 12,000 acres, mainly located in Jackson and Plumsted townships, which is about 45 miles (72 kilometers) away from the actual Borgata Casino in Atlantic City,” police said. The Borgata is off the Atlantic City Expressway.

Coming around again: Famous ice disk seems to be re-forming


What goes around comes around. An ice disk appears to be forming in the same Maine river where an unusually large one formed last winter and quickly gained international fame. The City of Westbrook tweeted an aerial view of the disk in the Presumpscot River with the message: “ICE BREAKING NEWS: Ice Disk 2020 is making a run for it... It’s not a perfect circle yet, but it is rotating counter-clockwise again & the seagulls are along

for the ride.” The ice formation comes just about a year after a disk measuring about 100 yards (91 meters) was spotted in the Presumpscot River. It eventually had a devoted webcam; social media users compared it to an alien spacecraft and the moon; and ducks used it as a raft.

Passenger takes over airport monitor for video game

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP)—A passenger waiting for a flight at an Oregon airport needed a bit more screen space for his video game so he plugged his Playstation 4 into a computer screen that had been displaying a map of the airport. Kara Simonds, a spokeswoman for the Port of Portland, told KXL-AM radio in an on-air interview that Portland International Airport staff asked the man to stop gaming on the public map display. He asked if he could finish his game. They said no, and the situation resolved peacefully. “Apparently it was a very polite and cordial interaction,” Simonds said, calling it “a good reminder of what not to do at the airport.” No word on whether or not the passenger made it to the next level.

IN LOVING MEMORY



Pedro Limes Pua

Lovingly known as “Pete”
November 22, 1950 – January 19, 2020

In his eternal life, he now joins his:
Parents: †Camila Iginoef Limes Pua
†Jose Laniyo Pua
Sister: †Nympha Limes Pua
Brother: †Andres Limes Pua
Daughter: †Lauvinia Pua Amirez
Godparents: †Juliana Taitano Cabrera
†Damian Selepeo Pua

His spirit and his memories will live in the heart of:
Spouse: Remedio Elameto
Children: **Paul F./Claudine** (Leodine/Shane and children)
Jefferey/Pam Pua (JeRaapha, Faith, Xariah, Janessa)
George/Lauvinia P. Amirez (Jeb Neal, James, Jonathan, Lonea, Jeremiah, Jephemiah, Yangwe, Leonatyn, & grand children)
Steve/Vivian P. Tenorio (Korey, Kyle, Kevin, Junella)
Patrick / Lani Buekis (Tenicia, Tericia, Tehalani)
Andrew / Carmen Lizama (Andgelo Gabriel)

Siblings: Alkaipito / **Maria Nakamura**, children & grandchildren
Erminia L. Pua, daughter & granddaughter
†Andres / Susana R. Pua, children & grandchildren
James / Cecilia P. Mingefiiz, children & grandchildren
Remedio L. Pua, children & grandchildren
William Limes & Resel, and family
Alvin & †Margarette DeleonGuerrero, children and grandchildren
Elias & Dolores “Lip” Rangamar, children and grandchildren
Patrick & Nadine Semens & daughter

In-Laws: †Gregorio / Bernadita Dela Cruz
†Vicente E. Sanchez
†Antonio Elameto
Maria Elameto
Joaquin E. Norita

Also cherished and loved by numerous nieces, nephews, god children, cousins and friends.

Mass is offered at San Jose Parish at 6pm, immediately followed by the Rosary.

On Sunday, January 26 at 5pm, his body will be escorted from CHCC Morgue to their residence in Koblerville for rosary and wake.

On Monday, January 27, mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:30am at the Mt. Carmel Cathedral followed with the Rite of Committal at the Chalan Kanoa Cemetery where he will be laid to his final resting place.

Your thoughts, prayers, and words of comfort are humbly cherished and appreciated.

The Family

Science & Technology



Why tech has been slow to fight wildfires, extreme weather

Flames from the Morton Fire consume a home near Bundanoon, New South Wales, Australia, on Thursday, Jan. 23, 2020. AP

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—For three years running, California's wildfires have sent plumes of smoke across Silicon Valley. So far, though, that hasn't spurred much tech innovation aimed at addressing extreme-weather disasters associated with climate change.

It's true that tech companies from enterprise software-maker Salesforce to financial-technology firm Stripe have pushed to dramatically reduce their climate impact. Individual investors and small investment firms have stepped in to fund emerging efforts around cleantech—a term used broadly to describe technology that looks to manage human impact on the environment. And the catastrophic Australian wildfires have spurred additional interest.

But among startups who provide much of tech innovation, things are still moving slowly. That's partly a lingering hang-over from a cleantech investment bust almost a decade ago. But the technology itself can also take years to prove and even longer to convince traditional utilities and government agencies to adopt.

"That's a big bottleneck," said Bilal Zuberi, a venture capitalist at Lux Capital who focuses on emerging tech investments.

Zuberi said a recent uptick in funding and activity is encouraging, but he also cautioned that new companies have to find ways to effectively work with slow-moving potential customers.

Clean tech companies focused specifically on addressing climate change issues are facing similar trends.

"It is a massive gap," Matt Rogers, co-founder of venture capital firm Incite Ventures, said of the tech industry's involvement in climate tech funding. "Folks don't work in this space."

But he added that this seems to

be changing, with the most promising movement in the past year.

Before getting into venture capital, Rogers co-founded the smart-thermostat company Nest, which was later acquired by Google. He left and started Incite, which focuses on investing mostly in climate tech, as well as health and medical tech startups.

One of the firm's portfolio companies, Pittsburgh-based Pearl Street Technologies, is working on software to help utilities better manage an increasingly "smart" electric grid—the web of power generators, substations and transmission lines that brings power to homes and business.

Founders David Bromberg and Larry Pileggi are developing software intended to help utilities cope with the changes presented by solar installations, more widely distributed wind farms, and the increased complexity of managing grids that increasingly aren't centrally planned around large power stations.

Science Matters

Out at sea, a part of Earth is dying

The Juan de Fuca Plate, one of the slowly moving tectonic plates of the Earth's crust, is being crushed underground by the Pacific Plate, and it is not going to its doom quietly.



The Juan de Fuca Plate extends 600 miles (1,000 km) from Vancouver Island to Cape Mendocino, California

An "oceanic plate," it lies entirely under the Pacific Ocean; none of it is dry land

It is slowly "subducting," or sliding eastward under the North American plate

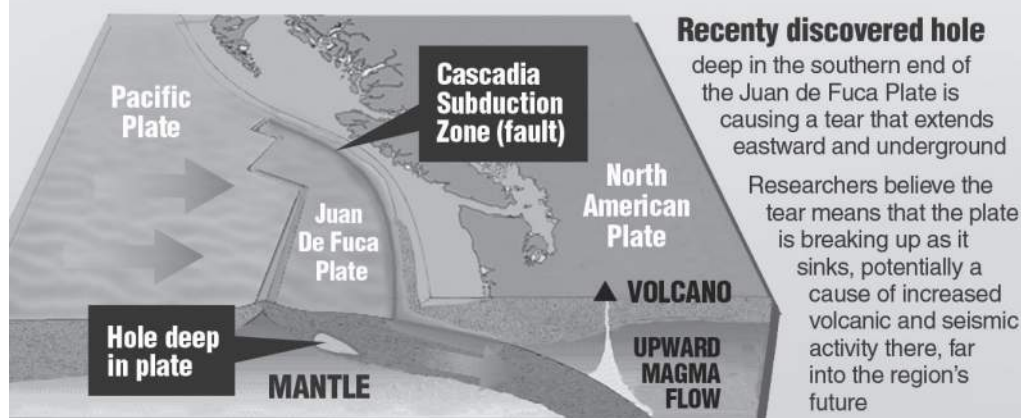
Quakes and eruptions as the plate dies

The Cascadia Subduction Zone is the most dangerous part of the plate because this fault line breaks free from time to time, setting off powerful earthquakes

A catastrophic earthquake estimated at 8.7 to 9.2 magnitude occurred there in 1700

An arc of volcanoes, part of the Pacific "Ring of Fire," stands over the area where the Juan de Fuca Plate plunges into the mantle

The most active volcanoes of the arc are Mount St. Helens, Mt. Baker, Lassen Peak, Mt. Shasta, and Mt. Hood



Source: William Hawley and Richard Allen of University of California, Berkeley; Geophysical Research Letters
Graphic: Helen Lee McComas, Tribune News Service

TECH Q&A

By **STEVE ALEXANDER**
Star Tribune (Minneapolis)



Steve Alexander covers technology for the Minneapolis Star Tribune. Readers may write to him at Tech Q&A, 425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn. 55488-0002; email: steve.j.alexander@gmail.com. Please include a full name, city and phone number.

How to migrate data from a Windows 7 PC to a new Mac

Q Rather than switch from Windows 7 to Windows 10, I decided to buy a Mac. What's the easiest way to transfer my pictures, important files, Gmail, music and Google Chrome bookmarks from the PC to the Mac?

A Most of that information can be transferred automatically using Apple's free Windows Migration Assistant program. Anything the program doesn't transfer can be moved via a standard flash drive.

To use Migration Assistant, the Mac and PC must be on the same Wi-Fi or wired network, and both must be running the migration program. The Mac comes with it, and you can download it for your Windows 7 PC. Note that you must download the PC version that matches your Mac's operating system (see "move your data" at tinyurl.com/t5bc8gt). The transfer can take hours because the Migration Assistant moves so many things, including:

- Your Windows system settings, such as language, location and even wallpaper.

- Directories and data. Migration Assistant will transfer "top level directories" (such as the list of what's on your C drive), and will move the data you've stored in two folders called "Windows" and "Program Files."

- Bookmarks for Internet Explorer, Safari or Firefox. For Chrome, you can move everything to the Mac by using the "sync" feature (see tinyurl.com/t5prjkh).

- Pictures, music and more. Your Windows photos will move to the Mac's "home folder." If you have iTunes, its content will be divided among four Mac programs: Music, TV, Podcasts and Books (for audiobooks).

- Some e-mail and calendar items and settings. The migration program only transfers data from Microsoft programs such as Outlook or Windows Live Mail. (That limitation won't affect your Gmail or Google Calendar, which are stored online. Just log into them from the Mac.)

Q I'm having a problem using Google search. When I open the Google Chrome browser on my computer, a Yahoo icon shows up. Any search I perform is routed to the Yahoo search engine instead of to Google. What's wrong?

A You've downloaded the Yahoo Toolbar, an add-on program for your Google browser. It automatically sets your browser's default search engine to Yahoo.

The toolbar is often installed unintentionally when you download other free software. Be sure to read the installation instructions with any download, so that you can opt out of extra software you don't want. Avoid "quick installation" options, which may include extra software.

To delete the Yahoo Toolbar, open the Chrome browser's internal menu by clicking the three dots at the upper right. Select "more tools," and from the resulting menu choose "extensions" (the name Google uses for Chrome add-on programs). In the next menu, select the Yahoo Toolbar and click "remove." Then open the menu again and choose "settings" from the list. In the next menu scroll down to "search engine" and click "manage search engines." Find "Google," click the three dots at the right and choose "make default."

Life & Style

Weinstein rape trial opens, marking milestone for #MeToo

NEW YORK (AP)—Harvey Weinstein went on trial Wednesday in a landmark moment for the #MeToo movement, with prosecutors painting him as a sexual predator who used his Hollywood clout to abuse women for decades, while his lawyers sought to portray his accusers as willing participants.

Prosecutor Meghan Hast told the jury of seven men and five women that the former studio boss was “not just a titan in Hollywood—he was a rapist” who screamed at one victim that she “owed” him sex, used injections to induce an erection before an assault and pushed his way into the apartment of another woman and attacked her.

“It is for his complete lack of empathy that he must be held accountable,” Hast said.

Weinstein lawyer Damon Cheronis countered by laying out plans to use friendly-sounding emails, calendar entries and other evidence to call into question the accusers’ accounts of being attacked.

The opening of the rape trial more than two years after a barrage of allegations against Weinstein gave rise to the #MeToo movement was seen by activists as a milestone in the global reckoning over sexual misconduct by powerful men. Weinstein’s lawyers have portrayed the case as the result of a climate of accusation run amok.

Weinstein has insisted any sexual encounters were consensual. He could get life in prison if convicted.

Weinstein, 67, told reporters

he felt “very confident” about the case as he left court: “I got great lawyers.”

While he entered the courthouse without the walker he has been using lately because of back problems, he was leaning on it again as he left.

The once-powerful and feared executive brought to the screen such Oscar-winning movies as “Pulp Fiction,” “The King’s Speech,” “Shakespeare in Love” and “Chicago” and hobnobbed with the elite in Hollywood and beyond, a point prosecutors made by showing jurors a photo of Weinstein with former President Bill Clinton. A prosecutor also told the judge that Weinstein had taken calls from Clinton while Weinstein was with one of his accusers.

Weinstein’s lawyers later cited the photo in asking for a mistrial, saying the image was irrelevant and accusing prosecutors of improperly trying to influence the jury. Judge James Burke denied the request.

Scores of women have accused Weinstein of exploiting his position as a career-maker to sexually harass or assault them over the years. But the New York charges center on two allegations: that Weinstein forcibly performed oral sex on former “Project Runway” production assistant Mimi Haley in his apartment in 2006 and raped an aspiring actress in a New York City hotel room in 2013.

The Associated Press does not typically identify people



Harvey Weinstein leaves a Manhattan courthouse after a second day of jury selection for his trial on rape and sexual assault charges, Thursday, Jan. 16, 2020, in New York.

AP

who say they have been victims of sexual assault, unless they come forward publicly.

The rape accuser found a needle in the hotel room bathroom after the alleged assault and realized Weinstein had injected himself to get an erection, Hast said.

Another time, after the woman told him she had a new boyfriend, Weinstein dragged her into a bedroom, “all the while screaming at her that he owed her one more time,” Hast said. “He ripped

her jeans off so forcefully that it left scratch marks.” The prosecutor said Weinstein later told the woman, “I just want to apologize for what happened earlier. I just find you so attractive, I couldn’t resist you.”

her jeans off so forcefully that it left scratch marks.”

The prosecutor said Weinstein later told the woman, “I just want to apologize for what happened earlier. I just find you so attractive, I couldn’t resist you.”

In addition to the two women he is charged with attacking, prosecutors plan to call to the stand four other accusers -- including actress Annabella Sciorra—in a bid to show a pattern of predatory behavior by Weinstein.

“They will each describe their fear, their shame and their humiliation—the struggle each went through to push their trauma down and show a brave face to the world,” Hast said.

With Sciorra expected to take the stand Thursday, Hast detailed allegations that Weinstein sexually assaulted the “Sopranos” actress around 1993 after giving her a ride home to her Manhattan apartment and forcing his way inside.

“She told him to get out. She told him no. But Harvey Weinstein was undeterred,” Hast said. She said the actress eventually stopped fighting Weinstein, “hoping it would end,” and was left “emotionally and physically destroyed, passed out on the floor.”

Weinstein’s lawyers made clear they intend to go on the offensive.

Hallmark media CEO leaves, month after same-sex ad backlash

NEW YORK (AP)—The head of Hallmark’s media business is leaving the company after 11 years, just a month after its flagship Hallmark Channel faced an outcry over a decision to pull an ad with a lesbian couple kissing.

No reason was given for Bill Abbott’s departure, and no replacement was immediately named.

ately named.

In a statement, Mike Perry, president and CEO of Hallmark Cards Inc., said that with immense competition from TV networks and streaming services, it is important for the company to find “relevant new ways to grow our business.”

Abbott was CEO of Crown

Media Family Networks, a company controlled by Hallmark Cards. Crown Media’s flagship cable channel is The Hallmark Channel, known for family-friendly programming, particularly made-for-TV Christmas-themed movies.

In December, the Hallmark Channel’s decision to pull an ad featuring the same-sex

couple led to an outcry online. The company later reversed the decision.

Crown Media also operates the Hallmark Movies & Mysteries, Hallmark Drama networks, subscription streaming service Hallmark Movies Now and e-book publishing division Hallmark Publishing.

Wife of a serial philanderer plans ahead for his funeral

DEAR ABBY: I have been married for 37 years. During that time, my husband has cheated on me and fathered several children.

As we have grown older, I have begun to think about final arrangements. If he dies, would I be wrong for not giving him a funeral or memorial service or having one for his sisters and brothers? I feel it would be disrespectful to me if the children that resulted from his affairs, and possibly their mothers, were there. Although my daughters love their father, I believe they would support my decisions.

ANGRY WIFE IN GEORGIA

DEAR ANGRY WIFE: You are under no obligation to have a funeral or memorial for your cheating husband. If his sisters, brothers, mistresses and their children would like to give him one, they can assume the responsibility. If you still feel the way you do today after his demise, you, your daughters and some close friends of yours can go out for a nice lunch or dinner to acknowledge the occasion.

P.S. Devil’s food cake for dessert would be appropriate.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: My parents divorced 10 years ago, when I was a freshman in college. My mom didn’t want the divorce. My dad initiated it, but they fought constantly when they were together. Not long afterward, Dad started a relationship with a co-worker, his current wife, whom my mom believes was the reason he left her.

I am being married at the end of the year, and I know Mom won’t be able to keep her emotions in check if Dad’s wife attends. My parents can keep it amicable if it’s just them, but I can’t see a way to exclude Dad’s wife without upsetting him. What’s the less-painful option—my mom getting upset or my dad getting upset?

WANTS FAMILY HARMONY

DEAR WANTS: Talk to your mother. Explain that you want your wedding to be inclusive, and you don’t want this special day to be spoiled. If she feels she won’t be able to control her anger, she shouldn’t attend. To invite your father and not his wife will be regarded as an insult, and he would likely refuse to be a part of it.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I married a man 24 years ago. At the time, I had a daughter who was 6. My new husband welcomed her, and she considers him to be her father. His parents, however, never considered her as their own. They took several family trips with all their grandkids but excluded my daughter.

Fast-forward to today: My daughter lives in another state. These nieces and nephews all have kids, as does my daughter. Every birthday and Christmas, I buy said nieces’ and nephews’ kids presents, but I assume because my daughter lives in a different state, no one buys her kids anything. Is it wrong that this upsets me? Should I continue buying gifts for all those kids

DEAR ABBY

By Abigail Van Buren
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



when my daughter’s kids are being left out?

LEFT OUT IN ILLINOIS

DEAR LEFT OUT: You are not wrong. Considering the circumstances, you have been more than generous. Because your nieces and nephews are adults now, send them cards for the holidays. The same is true for their children. And if you are asked why, tell them the truth—that gift-giving is supposed to be an exchange, and your daughter was seriously shortchanged.

■■■

To order “How to Write Letters for All Occasions,” send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

Pastimes

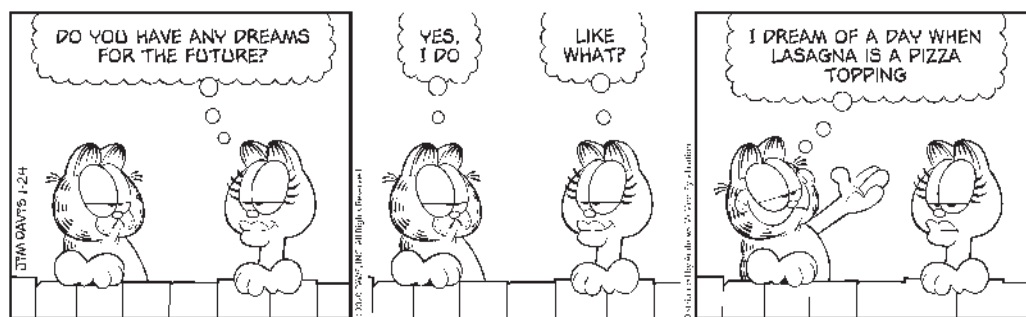
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



Garfield®

By Jim Davis



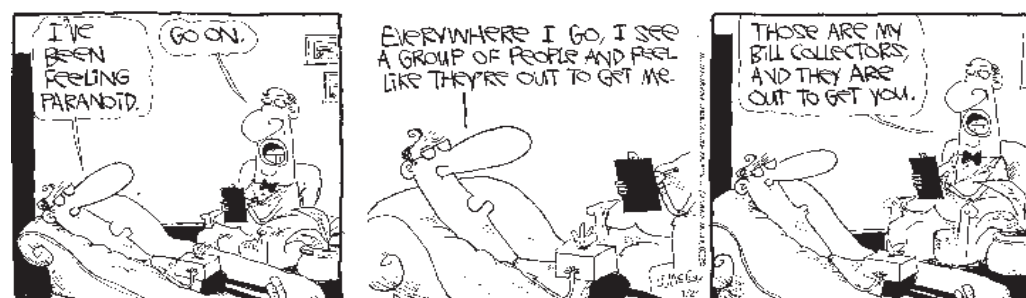
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

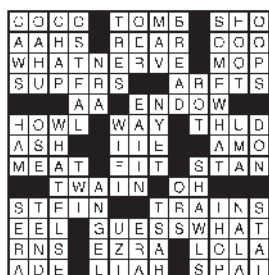


CROSSWORD

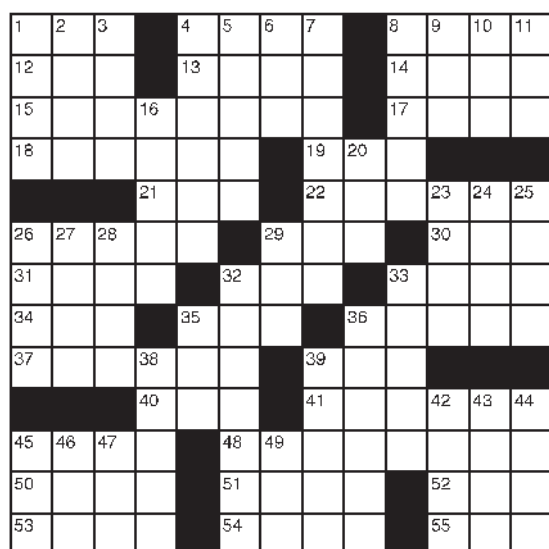
By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	39 Pouch	2 Rights org.	23 Couturier Christian
1 Wee dollop	40 "For — a jolly good ..."	3 Existed	24 Frost
4 Campus mil. group	41 Wore down	4 Speed checkers	25 Shriek barks
8 Castle defense	45 Galileo's birthplace	5 Poet Nash	26 Raw materials
12 Frozen water	48 Martini specification	6 Sailor	27 Andean land
13 Culture medium	50 Basra resident	7 Waterford product	28 Novelist Hunter
14 Against	51 Memory method	8 Showy parrot	29 Joke
15 Take everything from	52 Pub order	9 Yoko from Tokyo	32 Yellow-stone attractions
17 Cajole	53 Polite query	10 —	33 Winter quaff
18 Ice cream parlor order	54 Any time now	11 Box office	35 Opposite of "post."
19 Resort	55 Thumbs-up	16 Idyllic places	36 Lacking vegetation
21 Directional ending	DOWN	20 Salary	38 Abu —
22 Garish	1 Firsties		39 Brawl
26 Unlocks			42 Crucial time
29 Festive			43 Perry's creator
30 Sundial numeral			44 Salon jobs
31 Guns the engine			45 Nonstick spray
32 Lass			46 401(k) alternative
33 Freebie			47 Utter
34 Historic period			49 Tic-tac-toe loser
35 Identify			
36 Tiresome types			
37 Miscellaneous			

Solution time: 25 mins.



Yesterday's answer 1-24



STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Misha Barton, 34; Tatyana Ali, 41; Ed Helms, 46; Neil Diamond, 79.

Happy Birthday: Use intelligence and experience to help you avoid making the same mistake twice. Living in the past will not help you move forward. Be quick to assess situations so you don't waste time on someone or something that keeps blocking you from happiness and personal gain. It's time to recognize your potential and to use your skills appropriately. Your numbers are 8, 13, 21, 24, 33, 38, 43.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Participate in something that will give you a better understanding of what you can expect from someone you are partnered with or plan to work alongside. A trip or business meeting will take you in a different direction. ★★★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Keep your thoughts to yourself until you figure out what you are going to do next. Don't spend money you don't have yet. If you want to make a move or change, take a minimalist approach. Emotional spending won't solve problems. ★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Take a moment to figure out what you want. Don't let confusion and pressure lead to a mistake. Fact-finding will encourage you to re-think your plans. Use your intelligence to counter emotional uncertainty. Don't leave anything to chance. ★★★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): A personal change will boost your morale and give you the confidence to take advantage of an unusual opportunity that comes your way.

Consider what's involved, and put your ideas to work for you. A relationship will benefit from loving care. ★★★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Don't get down; get moving. If you linger too long waiting to see what everyone else is going to do or trusting someone to take care of matters for you, nothing will get done to your specification. Choose love over discord. ★★★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Let your creative imagination run wild. It's good to break away from your daily routine every once in a while. Be unique and original if you want to stay ahead of everyone. Time spent with someone you are into will be exhilarating. ★★★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Make plans to spend time with people you enjoy, and ideas you offer will turn into an unexpected opportunity. Share your interests and knowledge. A moneymaking plan will lead to financial rewards as well as satisfaction. ★★★★★

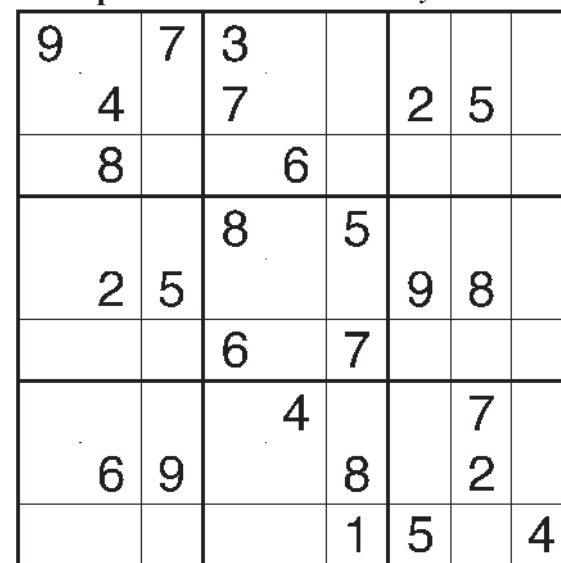
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Before you decide, move forward or take a chance, and check every detail. Don't trust the information you receive from an outsider. Someone you love will help you clear your mind, ease your stress and recognize what's possible. ★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Originality will help you attract attention. Use your experience to help you turn an idea you have into something spectacular. Discuss your plans with someone who inspires you. An unexpected offering will take you by surprise. Clear an old debt. ★★★★★

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★★★★★

1/24

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

1	5	6	2	8	3	4	7	9
7	8	9	1	4	5	3	6	2
3	4	2	7	6	9	1	8	5
5	9	3	8	7	2	6	4	1
4	1	8	5	9	6	7	2	3
2	6	7	3	1	4	5	9	8
9	7	1	6	5	8	2	3	4
6	3	4	9	2	1	8	5	7
8	2	5	4	3	7	9	1	6

Not Truly Level ★★

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Too much of anything will leave you confused. When in doubt, sit tight and wait to see what happens. Personal growth will shine a light on new possibilities. Take a different approach to an old idea in order to reap the rewards. ★★★★★



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Contemplate what's going on around you, and be satisfied being a friendly observer until you feel confident that making a move is truly in your best interest. Let go of regrets, revenge and living in the past. Forward motion will be liberating. ★★★★★



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Nothing will be readily available without pulling strings and making compromises. Consider the pros and cons before you get involved in something that could be risky physically, financially or legally. Look at every angle, and take the safest route. Avoid excessive behavior. ★★★★★

Birthday Baby: You are smart, understanding and strategic. You are helpful and trendy. Visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

WONDERWORD

By DAVID CUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

ARKANSAS CHOCOLATE ROLLS

Solution: 12 letters

C	F	M	I	S	T	Y	S	E	R	E	N	I	T	Y
O	O	E	A	O	L	M	L	T	E	A	C	H	E	R
N	U	C	S	R	Y	S	A	L	T	J	U	D	G	E
F	N	S	O	T	C	R	U	N	C	H	Y	D	F	K
E	D	Y	H	A	I	H	N	A	S	M	R	A	F	A
C	E	B	L	S	P	V	N	F	E	R	A	C	E	B
T	R	U	O	L	F	O	A	O	I	T	Y	P	E	F
I	O	R	I	N	I	D	O	W	L	L	H	I	S	A
O	L	Z	I	N	F	O	D	S	C	N	E	I	Y	M
N	L	P	A	E	I	S	T	E	E	W	S	S	A	I
E	S	L	R	R	K	E	R	L	R	R	E	R	L	L
D	U	B	E	I	K	B	U	T	T	E	R	A	T	I
L	G	D	L	S	D	S	E	A	R	C	Y	I	P	E
O	A	L	G	O	O	E	Y	T	N	U	O	C	C	S
G	R	O	L	L	I	N	G	P	I	N	T	A	E	H

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1/24

Annual, Bakery, Bite, Brenda, Butter, Cocoa Powder, Confection, County, Cream, Crunchy, Diner, Families, Farms, Festival, Fill, Flour, Fold, Founder, Golden, Goody, Heat, Judge, Leslie, March, Misty's, Ozarks, Pies, Pride, Place, Recipe, Rich, Rolling Pin, Rolls, Ruby's, Salt, Searcy, Sell, Serenity, Skill, Smyth, Sugar, Sweet, Teacher, Trays, Type, Wrap

Yesterday's Answer: Grassland

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Williamson's 22 in debut not enough for Pelicans vs. Spurs



NEW ORLEANS (AP)—Zion Williamson scored the final point of his first NBA regular season game as a packed and standing crowd belted out chants of “M-V-P!”

Then the NBA's No. 1 overall draft pick went to the bench—as mandated by medical staff—and watched the game slip away from the Pelicans while unheeded chants of, “We want Zion!” echoed around the Smoothie King Center.

Williamson capped his long-awaited NBA debut by scoring 17 of his 22 points in the fourth quarter and stirring the crowd into a frenzy—but the savvy and composed San Antonio Spurs weathered the surge for a 121-117 victory Wednesday night.

The celebrated rookie out of Duke, whose maiden regular season appearance was delayed three months by arthroscopic surgery on his right knee, said watching the final five minutes from the bench out of caution was “very hard.”

“I'm 19, honestly. In that moment, I'm not thinking about longevity,” Williamson continued. “I'm thinking about winning that game, so it was very tough.”

LaMarcus Aldridge had 32 points and 14 rebounds, DeMar DeRozan added 20 points, and the San Antonio Spurs withstood Williamson's late surge for a 121-117 victory over New Orleans on Wednesday night.

“The crowd got into it. We didn't let it rattle us,” DeRozan said, adding that Williamson “went on a hell of a run.”

“It was great that we held our composure, executed when we needed to, and came up with stops when we needed to,” DeRozan added.

With Spurs coach Gregg Popovich sending double-teams at Williamson, the rookie struggled to find his shot during the first three quarters. When the fourth quarter began, he had just five points, four rebounds, an assist and four turnovers in a little less than 12 minutes.

But when the 6-foot-6, 285-pound Williamson found himself open for a straight-on 3 with about nine minutes to go, he let it fly and it went down, infusing the stadium with energy. He followed that up with a torrid three-minute stretch in which he laid in an alley-oop lob, put back a missed shot with a reverse layup and hit three more 3s.

Raptors 107, 76ers 95

In Toronto, Pascal Siakam had 18 points and 15 rebounds, Fred VanVleet scored 22 and



Toronto extended its winning streak to five games with a win over Philadelphia.

Norman Powell added 18 points, Marc Gasol shot 7 for 7 and finished with 17 points, and Kyle Lowry and Serge Ibaka each scored 16 as the Raptors won their 15th straight home meeting with the 76ers.

Ben Simmons had 17 points, 10 rebounds and eight assists for the 76ers, narrowly missing his second straight triple-double. Simmons, however, had just two points and one rebound in the fourth quarter as Philadelphia's four-game winning streak was snapped.

Tobias Harris scored 22 points, Furkan Korkmaz had 17 and Matisse Thybulle 13 for the 76ers.

Hawks 102, Clippers 95

In Atlanta, John Collins scored 33 points and got a big assist from two-way player Brandon Goodwin as Atlanta, playing without Trae Young, rallied from a 21-point deficit to stun the short-handed Clippers.

Goodwin chipped in with 19 points—all in the fourth quarter—and dished off to De'Andre Hunter in the corner for a 3-pointer that gave the Hawks a 99-93 lead with 1:43 remaining.

The Clippers seemingly seized control with a 20-0 run in the first quarter, despite missing starters Kawhi Leonard, Paul George and Patrick Beverley.

Montrezl Harrell led Los Angeles with 30 points, but his struggles at the foul line (6 of 13) gave the Hawks a chance to rally.

The Hawks rallied with a barrage of 3-pointers, hitting

10 of 23 over the final two quarters after going 1 of 12 in the first half. Goodwin and Collins combined for 27 of the team's 33 points in the final period. Collins also had 16 rebounds.

Heat 134, Wizards 129 (OT)

In Miami, Tyler Herro scored 25 points, Jimmy Butler scored nine of his 24 points in overtime and Miami wasted a 21-point lead before beating Washington.

Butler also had 10 assists and seven rebounds for the Heat, who improved to 20-1 at home and 8-0 in overtime this season. Goran Dragic had 22 points and 10 assists, Kendrick Nunn scored 14 points and Duncan Robinson finished with 13 for the Heat.

Bradley Beal had a game-high 38 points for Washington on 16-for-24 shooting. Davis Bertans scored 24, Isaiah Thomas and Jordan McRae each had 14 and Ian Mahinmi scored 10 for the Wizards.

Thunder 120, Magic 114

In Orlando, Dennis Schroder scored 31 points and Oklahoma City shot 60.5% against one of the NBA's better defenses and beat Orlando.

Schroder came off the bench with 13-for-18 shooting and added nine assists for the Thunder, who won for the eighth time in nine road games.

Chris Paul added 19 points and six assists for Oklahoma City, and Shai Gilgeous-Alexander finished with 18 points and 12 rebounds.

Terrence Ross scored 26 points and Nikola Vucevic added 24 points and 11 rebounds for Orlando, which

had allowed an NBA-low 103.9 points per game.

Rockets 121, Nuggets 105

In Houston Russell Westbrook had 28 points, 16 rebounds and eight assists, James Harden added 27 points and Houston snapped a four-game losing streak with a victory over short-handed Denver.

Harden scored 20 points in the first half. He connected on 13 of 15 from the free throw line. Houston shot 47%, including 13 of 29 on 3-pointers.

Eric Gordon scored 25 points on 6-of-8 shooting on 3-pointers, and Clint Capela had 14 points and 11 rebounds to help Houston win its eighth straight against the Nuggets in Houston.

Nikola Jokic led the Nuggets—down five players, including three starters—with 19 points, 12 rebounds and 10 assists for his eighth triple-double of the season. Jerami Grant added 17 points and seven rebounds, and Torrey Craig had 14 points and seven rebounds.

Pacers 112, Suns 87

In Phoenix, T.J. Warren scored 25 points in his return to Phoenix, Domantas Sabonis added 24 and Indiana rolled past the Suns.

Warren was playing his first game against the Suns after being traded from Phoenix to Indiana during the offseason. The sixth-year forward—who played his first five years with the Suns—shot 11 of 18 from the field.

Sabonis added 13 rebounds. The Pacers have won six of seven and stretched their winning streak against the Suns to six.

Phoenix never led and trailed by 25 by midway

through the third quarter

Kelly Oubre Jr. led Phoenix with 17 points and nine rebounds. Devin Booker added 16 points.

Pistons 127, Kings 106

In Detroit, Derrick Rose scored 22 points and Reggie Jackson added 22 points in his return to lineup, as Detroit beat Sacramento and dealt the Kings their sixth straight loss.

Jackson missed 42 games since leaving the second game of the season with a back injury. He made a floater on his first attempt and played well in his 19 minutes off the bench, shooting 8 of 14 and handling out four assists.

Rose scored 20 or more points for the 10th straight game, tying the career high he set in 2010-11, his MVP season in Chicago. He also eclipsed 11,000 career points and added 11 assists.

Christian Wood scored 23 points, and Svi Mykhailiuk added 13 points off the bench, the 11th time in 12 games that he's scored in double figures.

De'Aaron Fox had 22 points, and Bogdan Bogdanovic added 19 points for the Kings, who shot 12 of 23 from the line (52.2%).

Bulls 117, Timberwolves 110

In Chicago, Zach LaVine scored 25 points, Lauri Markkanen added 21 and Chicago overcame a big performance by Karl-Anthony Towns to beat Minnesota.

LaVine had seven points in the final 2:25 to help Chicago pull out the win after letting a 19-point lead in the second quarter slip away.

His 3-pointer with 1:23 remaining put the Bulls ahead

New Orleans Pelicans forward Zion Williamson (1) reacts after making a 3-point basket in the second half of an NBA basketball game against the San Antonio Spurs in New Orleans, Wednesday, Jan. 22, 2020. The Spurs won 121-117.

for good at 111-108. LaVine then hit two free throws with 26 seconds left.

New London's Kris Dunn sank four more foul shots and the Bulls came out on top after losing nine of 12. Dunn had 14 points, seven rebounds and four assists.

Towns scored a season-high 40 points, but the Timberwolves lost their seventh straight.

Jazz 129, Warriors 96

In San Francisco, Rudy Gobert had 22 points, 15 rebounds and three blocked shots, and Donovan Mitchell scored 23 to lead Utah past Golden State.

D'Angelo Russell overcame a slow start to score 26 points for the Warriors, who lost for the 11th time in 12 games and couldn't build any momentum at Chase Center after ending a five-game home losing streak with Saturday's victory over Orlando.

Marquese Chriss of the Warriors and Utah's Tony Bradley were ejected with 21.9 seconds left after they jawed at each other.

Lakers 100, Knicks 92

In New York, LeBron James scored 19 of his 21 points to quickly cut into Kobe Bryant's shrinking lead over him for the No. 3 scoring spot in NBA history, and Los Angeles beat the Knicks.

Anthony Davis led the Lakers with 28 points in his second game back after a five-game absence, after the Western Conference leaders were handed their worst loss of the season Monday in his return.

James' quiet second half left him with 33,599 points, 44 behind Bryant.

Celtics 119, Grizzlies 95

In Boston, Jayson Tatum scored 23 points before leaving the game in the third quarter with a groin injury as Boston routed Memphis.

Daniel Theis had 14 points, Enes Kanter finished with 13 points and eight rebounds to help Boston win its second straight. Memphis has lost two in a row since posting a season-high, seven-game win streak.

Jonas Valanciunas led the Grizzlies with 16 points and 13 rebounds. Jaren Jackson Jr. and Solomon Hill each added 13 points.

Mets pick coach Luis Rojas to replace Beltrán as manager



NEW YORK (AP) —

Caught off guard in a quick split with Carlos Beltrán, the New York Mets want some continuity for a change.

So with spring training only three weeks away, they picked his replacement from their very own bench.

The club was working Wednesday to complete a multiyear agreement with quality control coach Luis Rojas that would make him New York's fourth manager in the past 2 1/2 years — and third in four months.

"He has a good finger on the pulse of this particular team. He was part of it last year," general manager Brodie Van Wagenen said. "He knows these guys, and he knows how to communicate to them. Every returning player on the roster has a relationship with him, and that's valuable to us at this time."

Rojas would take over for Beltrán, let go by the Mets last week before managing a single game as part of the fallout from the Houston Astros'

sign-stealing scandal.

The 38-year-old Rojas is the son of former Montreal Expos and San Francisco Giants manager Felipe Alou and the brother of ex-big league outfielder Moises Alou, who spent his last two seasons with the Mets from 2007-08. A minor league manager for eight years, Rojas has worked in the organization since 2007 but had never coached in the majors before joining Mickey Callaway's staff last season.

"Luis earned this job. He has literally trained his whole life to be a manager," Van Wagenen said. "He is considered one of the better in-game decision makers simply that we have in the organization."

Rojas' duties in the dugout as quality control coach included serving as "a conduit between the front office and coaching staff on all issues including game preparation, strategy and analytics," according to the team's media guide. He also was New York's outfield coach in 2019 and led the effort in preparing hitters for opposing pitchers, Van Wagenen said.

Callaway was fired after the season, and Rojas interviewed for the vacancy before New York hired Beltrán on Nov. 1. Van Wagenen said Rojas knew he was "a serious candidate" back in October.

"It's always helpful to have familiarity," Van Wagenen said. "The fact that he was so actively involved with the coaches this fall in preparation for spring training, in preparation for the season — he was already asserting himself more in a leadership role with this new coaching staff and helping Carlos learn some of the managerial things that he hadn't been exposed to before."

That played "a significant role" in the Mets choosing Rojas, according to Van Wagenen. The team decided against external options such as ESPN analyst Eduardo Pérez, who interviewed for the job last fall.

"I think it's the fit, it's where the team is, it's what



Rojas

culture we're trying to create," Van Wagenen said, pointing out that most of New York's homegrown talent played for Rojas in the minors. "He's respected by the players, he's trusted by the players and he's someone that we have great confidence in."

Beltrán's tenure lasted just 2½ months and ended after Commissioner Rob Manfred singled him out last week in a report on a cheating scheme used by the Astros during their World Series championship season in 2017, when Beltrán played for them.

No players were disciplined by Major League Baseball, but three days later the Mets announced Beltrán was out as manager. The sides said it was a mutual decision, and Beltrán apologized for his role in the scam. He said he didn't want to be a distraction to the Mets.

Less than a week afterward, they transitioned to Rojas.

"When it came to this unfortunate circumstance, we

didn't want to change the values that we outlined for ourselves in the initial process," Van Wagenen said. "We wanted to continue the momentum that we have with the work that's been done in preparation for spring training, and we felt like Luis was in a position to be a leader of that group."

Houston manager AJ Hinch and Boston skipper Alex Cora also were let go after being implicated in MLB's sign-stealing report. Neither the Astros nor Red Sox have named replacements.

Rojas, born in the Dominican Republic, played in the minors with the Orioles, Marlins and Expos/Nationals from 2000-05 but never got above rookie ball.

He is entering his 14th season working in the Mets organization, including those eight as a minor league manager. He coached for New York in the Dominican Summer League in 2007, got his first managerial role with the rookie-level Gulf Coast League team in 2011 and also managed at Class-A and

Double-A. In the Dominican Winter League, he won a 2016 championship with the Leones del Escogido.

Notably, he was the manager at Double-A Binghamton during Pete Alonso's breakout 2018 season, when he led the minors with 36 home runs.

"Loved having Luis in '17 and '18 as my AA manager!" Alonso tweeted. "It's awesome playing under him and having him on staff last year as well!!! Super pumped to have him as the Jeff. Also he throws some damn good bp."

Following a strong second half, New York went 86-76 last season but missed the playoffs, finishing third in the NL East behind Atlanta and World Series champion Washington.

"LUIS ROJAS! Love love love it," Mets pitcher Marcus Stroman added on Twitter. "Loved being around him on the bench last year. Always teaching and full of knowledge. Super laid back and brings nothing but great vibes each and every day. Beyond even keel. Excited even more for the year!"

NEW YORK (AP)—Major League Baseball will test computer plate umpires during spring training but will not use the system for decisions in any exhibition games.

MLB experimented with the automated balls and strikes system during the second half of last season in the independent Atlantic League, and the Arizona Fall League used it for a few dozen games at Salt River Fields. The Major League Baseball Umpires Association agreed last month to cooperate and assist if Commissioner Rob Manfred decides to utilize the system

MLB to test but not use computer umpers at spring training

at the major league level.

"We will be running the automated balls and strikes system only in test mode but will not actually use it to call balls and strikes in spring training games," the commissioner's office said in a statement. "It will be available in nine spring training facilities for later use during the Florida State League season."

Plate umpires hear the computerized ball/strike calls via earpieces. The human umpers decide on checked swings and other plays.

Manfred spoke about the system in an interview with Fox at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland.

"We believe over the long haul it's going to be more accurate. It will reduce controversy in the game and be good for the game," he said. "The current strike zone design is actually three-dimensional, and a camera is better at calling a three-dimensional strike zone than the human eye."

Manfred also addressed his Jan. 13 decision to discipline the Houston Astros for using a

video camera to steal signs in violation of rules during 2017 and 2018. Manfred suspended manager AJ Hinch and general manager Jeff Luhnow for one season each, and both were fired by the team. He fined the team \$5 million and stripped the Astros of their next two first- and second-round draft picks.

MLB also is investigating whether Boston stole signs in 2018, and Manfred withheld a decision on Red Sox manager Alex Cora, whom Manfred concluded was involved in sign stealing by the Astros

when he was Houston's bench coach in 2017.

Cora lost his job as Boston manager and Carlos Beltrán, implicated by Manfred as a senior player on the 2017 Astros, quit his new job as manager of the New York Mets.

Manfred said stripping the 2017 Astros and 2018 Red Sox of their World Series titles was not considered. The Dodgers lost both World Series, and the Los Angeles City Council adopted a resolution Tuesday asking MLB to award the Dodgers both

championships.

"We haven't concluded our investigation with the Red Sox, so it's a little hard to take the trophy away from somebody who hasn't yet been found to do something wrong," Manfred said. "We don't know what the outcome of that's going to be. I think that the second flaw is whatever the impact of the sign stealing was, it could have changed who was in the World Series—absolutely unclear that the Dodgers would have been the World Series champion. I think there's a long tradition in baseball of not trying to change what happened."

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Giants' Eli Manning retires after 16 seasons, 2 Super Bowls



EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J.
(AP)—Eli Manning is ending a 16-year NFL

career that saw him recognized as a great quarterback, a leader, a solid citizen and the man who led the New York Giants back into prominence with two Super Bowl titles.

Manning, who set almost every Giants passing record in career solely based in New Jersey's Meadowlands, has retired, the Giants said Wednesday. He will formally announce his retirement on Friday and there is little doubt the team will retire his No. 10 jersey.

"For 16 seasons, Eli Manning defined what it is to be a New York Giant both on and off the field," John Mara, the Giants' president and chief executive officer said in a statement.

"Eli is our only two-time Super Bowl MVP and one of the very best players in our franchise's history. He represented our franchise as a consummate professional with dignity and accountability. It meant something to Eli to be the Giants quarterback, and it meant even more to us. We are beyond grateful for his contributions to our organization and look forward to celebrating his induction into the Giants Ring of Honor in the near future."

The recently turned 39-year-old's future had been in doubt



since the end of the season. Manning's contract with the Giants expired after the 4-12 season and there was little chance he would be returning after losing his long-time starting job to rookie Daniel Jones. Manning said he wanted to think about his future after the season and roughly three

weeks after the season ended he decided his career was over.

He leaves the NFL with as many Super Bowl titles as his brother, Peyton, who retired after leading the Denver Broncos to a title after the 2015 season.

The Giants acquired Manning from San Diego on draft

day in 2004 after the Ole Miss quarterback told the Chargers he did not want to play for them and forced the deal that general manager Ernie Accorsi gladly accepted.

It started a major turnaround for a team that was 4-12 the previous season.

Manning replaced Hall of

Famer Kurt Warner as the starter for then-new coach Tom Coughlin after nine games. They won the NFC East the following season.

Within three seasons, the Giants won their first NFL championship since the 1990 season and Manning got his first Super Bowl MVP award, knocking off the previously unbeaten New England Patriots. The second came after the 2011 season when Manning and company again beat Tom Brady, Bill Belichick and the Pats.

In both games, Manning hit a clutch late pass on game-winning drives. He and David Tyree hooked up on the helmet catch in the first one and he found Mario Manningham on sideline go pattern in the second, igniting an 88-yard drive.

"Eli Manning not only is the quarterback on those great teams, but he is the MVP of the Super Bowls," Coughlin said. "He's an incredible big-game performer. You talk about a guy that's great to coach, focused every day, took tremendous pride in preparing, practice, had a great sense of humor, was a cynic in the locker room. But the guys loved him and they loved him for it, and they played for him. The guys that had the opportunity to play with him know what it's like to be with a guy with as much talent, as much grit, as much determination."

Manning is the only player in Giants' history to play 16 seasons. His 236 regular-season games (234 starts) and 248 total games are team records.

From Nov. 21, 2004, through Nov. 23, 2017, Manning started 210 consecutive

regular-season games, then the second-longest streak by a quarterback in NFL history (to Brett Favre's 297). After sitting out one game, he started the next 22 in a row, giving him 232 starts in 233 games — plus 12 postseason games. Manning never missed a game because of injury.

Manning is sixth in NFL history with 8,119 attempts and seventh with 4,895 completions, 57,023 yards and 366 touchdown passes. He also has the franchise's highest career completion rate (60.29 percent). He was selected to four Pro Bowls.

There are many who think he is the Giants' greatest quarterback, although others will debate that honor belongs to either Y.A. Tittle or Charlie Conerly.

Manning started the first two games of the recently concluded season before recently fired coach Pat Shurmur replaced him with Jones, the No. 6 pick overall in the draft. He started two more games in December after Jones sprained an ankle and led the Giants to a win over Miami in his final start at MetLife Stadium.

Off the field, Manning has donated his time to many charitable events. He was the co-recipient of the Walter Payton NFL Man of the Year Award in 2016 with Larry Fitzgerald of the Arizona Cardinals.

During the Super Bowl week, Manning will be presented with the 2020 Athletes in Action/Bart Starr Award for serving as a positive role model to his family, teammates and community.

Manning is one of just five players in NFL history to win multiple Super Bowl MVP awards, joined by Brady, Joe Montana, Terry Bradshaw and Starr. Manning is one of 21 quarterbacks to win a Super Bowl without losing one and one of 12 to win at least two Super Bowls.

In the 2004 draft, the Giants picked fourth and selected quarterback Philip Rivers. Accorsi sent Rivers, their third-round choice in 2004 (No. 65 overall), and first and fifth-round picks in the 2005 draft to the Chargers for Manning.

It was the game-changing deal for the Giants.

49ers coach Kyle Shanahan reflects on blown Super Bowl

SANTA CLARA, Calif.
(AP)—Kyle Shanahan's play calls from his first trip to the Super Bowl as an offensive coordinator have been heavily scrutinized.

That's to be expected after Shanahan's Falcons blew a 28-3 lead to the New England Patriots and lost in overtime three years ago in part because Atlanta was unable to run out the clock or add to the lead.

Shanahan is back in the title game as head coach for the San Francisco 49ers. That's led to a rehashing of that game in Houston even if Shanahan has put it far behind him.

"Not much at all anymore, to tell you the truth," he said this week when asked if he still goes over that game. "You do it every second. The days after were real tough. Losing a Super Bowl is extremely tough for everybody, especially when you lose one when you have a 28-3 lead. The way it came down on me personally, I didn't react to that, the way people would expect, because there were definitely parts in that Super Bowl that I would love to have back and stuff I was very

hard on myself, but the whole narrative of if I would've just ran it, we would've won. I know that wasn't the case."

Shanahan said there's just one play call he'd like to have back from that day and it's not calling for a third-down pass midway through the fourth quarter that led to a sack-fumble that allowed the Patriots to make it a one-possession game.

The call he'd like back came on the next drive after the Falcons had used two long pass plays to move the ball down to the New England 22 with less than five minutes left.

Three straight runs could have forced the Patriots to burn their timeouts and led to a field goal that would have given Atlanta an 11-point lead that might have been too much for even Tom Brady to overcome.

But after losing a yard on a first-down run, Shanahan called for a pass play that he still regrets.

"They played a different coverage, didn't get the call I wanted so I didn't like the

call," he said. "I was hoping we could just get rid of it, but they had a pretty good rush and got a sack."

Now backed up to the 35, Shanahan called for another pass to get back into field-goal range on third down only to have a 9-yard gain negated by a holding penalty. An incompletion on third down led to a punt from the 45, setting up Brady's game-tying drive.

"I wish I didn't call that play on second-and-11 that led to that sack," Shanahan said.

Now the coordinator who called one too many pass plays in his first trip to the Super Bowl is back to the title game as a head coach with one of the most run-dominant play scripts in NFL history.

The 49ers have run the ball on about three-quarters of their plays so far this postseason, the highest rate of runs in the playoffs since Don Shula's Dolphins threw the ball just 31 times with Hall of Famer Bob Griese at quarterback on the way to the championship following the 1973 season.

Jimmy Garoppolo threw the ball just 19 times in the di-

visional round win over Minnesota and then was limited to eight passes last week in the NFC championship game against Green Bay.

Shanahan instead has kept dialing up successful runs, including a trap play on third-and-8 that led to a 36-yard touchdown run by Raheem Mostert to open the scoring last week against the Packers.

The Niners have run the ball 89 times the past two games, something Shanahan might have been more hesitant to do earlier in his coaching career.

"I didn't play o-line growing up," he said. "So, when I first became a coach all I wanted to do was throw it. I played receiver and quarterback my whole life. So, that's all you want to do. And you lean toward that, but the longer you do it, you realize that no matter how cool of passes you can draw up, you've got to protect, you've got to do things, you can't put all the pressure on the quarterback. And the thing that does make it a lot easier is being able to run the ball. Running the ball takes pressure off everyone and puts pressure on the defense."



Amid rain and red hue, Medvedev, Kerber advance in Australia

By JOHN PYE
AP SPORTS WRITER

Red dust and rain gave some of the blue courts at the Australian Open a more Roland Garros hue, adding yet another freakish element to the conditions that have plagued the season's first major.

Rain on three of the first four days of the tournament has caused disruptions for players and organizers, little more than a week after smoke from bush fires caused air quality in Melbourne to be ranked among the worst in the world.

Play was delayed on outside courts Thursday by showers and what a weather expert called "dirty rain" that left damp red dust covering some courts, forced the closer of some public pools and turned the Yarra River a deep, murky brown.

In the three courts with retractable roofs, it was business as usual. Fourth-seeded Daniil Medvedev needed a medical timeout for a nose bleed before beating Spanish qualifier Pedro Martinez 7-5, 6-1, 6-3 and advancing to the



third round.

In the next match on Margaret Court Arena, 2016 Australian Open champion Angelique Kerber beat Priscilla Hon 6-3, 6-2 to complete a day session schedule that started with sixth-seeded Belinda Bencic's 7-5, 7-5 win over 2017 French Open champion Jelena Ostapenko. On Rod

Laver Arena, second-seeded Karolina Pliskova, a semifinalist here last year, advanced 6-3, 6-3 win over Laura Siegemund following two-time major winner Garbine Muguruza's 6-3, 3-6, 6-3 win over Ajla Tomljanovic.

Medvedev, the U.S. Open finalist, was leading 5-0 in the second set when he called

the trainer to help stem the blood from his nose. He said it happens to him sometimes, he wasn't bothered too much and confirmed it wasn't related to tension.

"No, no, not at all. If it would be, I would be bleeding every match I play," he said, smiling.

Medvedev said shifting

Russia's Daniil Medvedev holds a towel on his nose-bleed during his second round singles match against Spain's Pedro Martinez at the Australian Open tennis championship in Melbourne, Australia, Thursday, Jan. 23, 2020.

from outdoor conditions to indoors helped him against Martinez.

"Yeah, of course it changes a lot, even like it was gray when we stepped on the court. We just played one game on the, let's say, outdoor court," he said. "As soon as the roof is closed, everything is different. It gets more hot, more humid inside. The ball goes faster. I think the sound of the ball even is different. So everything is completely different."

"Today, I think it was in my advantage. Sometimes can be in your disadvantage."

Bencic said she was happy to get her match out of the way early.

"I didn't know the courts were, like, wet and dirty and

all that," Bencic said. "But for sure it was difficult today. It was sometimes sunny and then suddenly was almost raining. Then windy. Yeah, you just kind of have to accept it and go with it and try your best."

Melbourne Park staff used high-pressure hoses to clean court surfaces. Light rain became heavy, forcing the suspension of play on outside courts until the sun

came out in the mid-afternoon.

Among the big winners was CiCi Bellis, the 20-year-old Californian who is ranked 600th following four surgeries on her arm.

Bellis upset No. 20-seeded Karolina Muchova. No. 19 Donna Vekic beat Alize Cornet 6-4, 6-2 and Zarina Diyas rallied to beat Anna Blinkova 4-6, 6-3, 6-4.

On the men's side, Ernests Gulbis held off Aljaz Bedene 7-5, 6-3, 6-2.

Organizers were again forced to postpone matches because of the weather, rescheduled seven women's and six men's first-round doubles matches to Friday.

SIS

From Page 36

Anna Kwon, and Lina Tsukagoshi, while U14 girls have Helen Kim and Serin Chung are battling out in the division.

June Yu, Nason Wessel, Wataru Kadokura, Takeru Jim will see action in the U12 boys,

while the U16 boys will have Andy Kim, Jun Wang, David Kwon, and Daniel Kang.

CNMI national players Carol Lee and Robbie Schorr, meanwhile, will join Jimin Woo in the U18 boys tournament.

Miyawaki said the SIS STUCO Tennis Tournament is a fundraiser for SIS' student council.

ROBBIE

From Page 36

asked about his initial reaction upon receiving the news that he got the partial athletic and academic scholarship from William Woods University.

"I dedicate [my acceptance to William Woods University] to my parents for always supporting me and being there for me, all my coaches in my life that helped me get to where I am know, especially coach Jeff Race who has been there since the beginning, and all my friends and teammates I've played with and against to become better," he added.

Schorr said he looks forward to furthering his tennis career in college and in the NAIA.

"My goals are simply to work hard on and off the court, be the player I need to be, and strive to get to that next level," he said, adding that he plans to take up a bachelor's degree along the lines of exercise science.

Schorr's parents, Jeff and Hannah, were ecstatic after learning that their son will be going to college at Williams Woods University.

"Like every parent, we are very proud of what Robbie has

achieved," the Schorrs said.

Race, for his part, said he's happy to see Schorr's hard work finally paying off and that finally he gets a shot at playing college tennis in the U.S. mainland.

"As Robbie's coach for about 10 years I'm thrilled that Robbie will be fulfilling his goal of playing university tennis in the U.S. Getting an excellent scholarship is even better. All the hard work of training has paid off. Now he'll be able to take his game to the next level in college," he said.

According to its website, William Woods University is a learning community of more than 3,500 students and faculty, including some 1,100 traditional undergraduates representing more than 35 US states and 24 countries on our 225-acre campus in Fulton, Missouri.

The NAIA is a college athletics association for small colleges and universities in North America. For the 2018-2019 season, it has 251 member institutions, of which two are in British Columbia, one in the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the rest in the conterminous United States.

2 years, 4 operations later, CiCi Bellis back on Slam stage

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP)—As one final backhand off her seeded Australian Open opponent's racket sailed long, CiCi Bellis looked like someone who couldn't contain her excitement, jumping and yelling.

When she headed to the locker room moments later, the 20-year-old American shook her left fist, then put her hand to her ear to ask for

louder cheering.

And rightly so. This was a big deal for Bellis: Two full years and four right arm operations have come and gone since she was last healthy enough to participate in a Grand Slam tournament. And now she is into the third round at Melbourne Park after beating No. 20 Karolina Muchova of the Czech Republic 6-4,

6-4 on Thursday.

Bellis was something of a teen prodigy. In her very first tour-level match, at age 15 at the 2014 U.S. Open, she stunned 12th-seeded Dominika Cibulkova, an Australian Open runner-up, to become the youngest American to win a match at Flushing Meadows in 28 years.

She reached No. 35 in the rankings at 17, when she

won WTA Newcomer of the Year honors. Then came the series of health problems, including for torn tendons in her wrist, to shorten a bone in her arm and for bone spurs in her elbow. All the time away from the tour has her at No. 600 in the rankings currently, but she was able to get into the draw in Australia via the protected ranking rule.

SAIPAN

From Page 36

the win-loss standings after keeping a disorganized Vision RNV side winless, 87-78, in the open division.

After a slow start that saw them trail Vision RNV, 20-17, after the opening quarter, Islander Rent A Car got their bearings in the second quarter and led 41-35 at the break.

Best player of the game Mark Anthony Mintac built on a 5-point first half by exploding for 12 points in the third, as Islander Rent A Car continued to lead Vision RNV, 67-58, heading into the fourth and final quarter.

It was all she wrote for Vision RNV in the playoff period as Ehrol Peredo's 8 points in the quarter proved no match to Islander Rent A Car's balanced offense.

Mintac finished with 21 points to lead Islander Rent A Car, while Peredo paced Vision RNV in the loss with a game-high 28 markers.

In the masters matchup between Old Iskool and Islander Rent A Car, the former blew out the latter in the final 10 minutes of the contest to win the game with plenty to spare, 95-75.

After a tight first half, which saw both teams enter halftime in a 46-all tie, Old Iskool took control of the game behind the 12 combined points of frontliners Romeo Grimpula and Peter Camacho. With the duo punishing Islander Rent A Car, Old Iskool took a 70-64 lead heading into the fourth quarter.

Best player of the game Edgar Pangelinan then came alive in the fourth, unloading 16 of his team-high 28 points as Old Iskool left Islander Rent A Car biting their dust in the endgame.

James Abuy and Grimpula back-stopped Pangelinan with 13 and 12 markers, respectively, for the now 5-1 Old Iskool. Rocyl Ritual shone in the loss for Islander Rent A Car, firing a game-high 38 points. It was the third loss in six matches for Islander Rent A Car.

In the evening's final game, Saipan Vegas proved steadier down the stretch as it outlasted AK Toyota, 88-76, in the open division.

Saipan Vegas had an auspicious start and took the first quarter lead, 25-16. AK Toyota continued to be stuck in neutral in the second quarter, as Saipan Vegas continued to dominate and took a 46-33 spread at the half.

AK Toyota finally got it rolling in the third and aided by the 14 points of Chris Lilles, the team entered the final quarter ahead by 3 points, 64-61.

Brian Natividad, however, would not allow Saipan Vegas to be down very long as he erupted for 14 points in the final 10 minutes of action to lift his team the 12-point victory.

Natividad earned best player of the game honors with 28 points, while Don Brennan paced AK Toyota in the loss with 21. It was the second win against three losses for Saipan Vegas, while AK Toyota dropped to 1-5 in the team standings.

Islander Rent A Car 87 — Mintac 21, Jandoc 20, Andrew 17, Mangali 14, Pastrana 6, Torres 5, Barrios 4.

Vision RNV 78 — Peredo 28, De Dios 12, Guiab 12, Esdrelon 10, Devero 9, Rueda 7.

Scoring by quarters: 17-20, 41-35, 67-58, 87-78.

Old Iskool 95 — Pangelinan 28, Abuy 13, Grimpula 12, De Guzman 12, Bartolo 6, Pablo 6, Camacho 6, Pambid 6, Montano 4, Tolentino 2.

Islander Rent A Car 75 — Ritual 38, Umali 12, Saplan 10, Calbone 10, Sedillo 4.

Scoring by quarters: 23-21, 46-46, 70-64, 95-75.

Saipan Vegas 88 — Natividad 28, Galarse 26, Bisena 14, Tolosa 13, Mungcal 4, Pua 2, Deleon Guerrero 2.

AK Toyota 76 — Brennan 21, Liles 18, Jones 13, Camacho 8, Castillo 5, Sebool 4, Coldeen 2.

Scoring by quarters: 25-16, 46-33, 61-64, 88-76.



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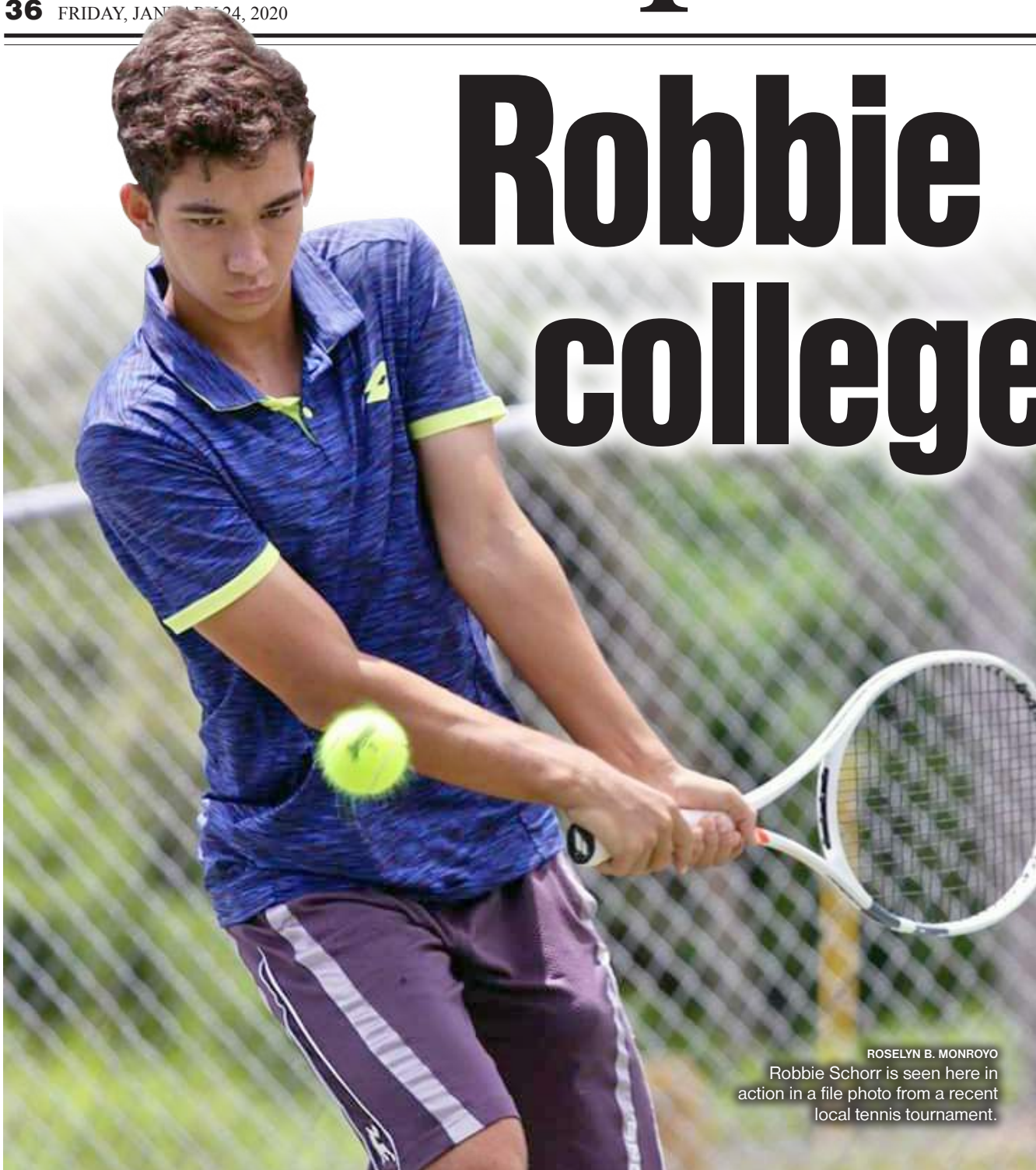
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SAIPAN TRIBUNE



Robbie to play college tennis

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

CNMI national player and Pacific Games gold medalist Robbie Schorr is headed to William Woods University in Missouri where he will play college tennis for the Owls in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athlet-



ics. The 17-year-old received a partial athletic and academic scholarship from William Woods University, which plays in the American Mid-

west Conference or AMC. "I'm super happy and excited to have everything I've worked on pay off and thrilled for the great opportunity I've been given," said Schorr when

See ROBBIE on Page 35

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Robbie Schorr is seen here in action in a file photo from a recent local tennis tournament.

SIS to host weekend tennis tourney



Helen Kim will see action in the girls U14 singles tournament of this weekend's SIS STUCO Tournament at the American Memorial Park and Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan tennis courts.

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

The Saipan International School student council will be holding a two-day tennis tournament at the American Memorial Park and Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan tennis courts this weekend.

Dubbed the SIS STUCO Tennis Tournament, the competition has nine divisions—girls singles U12, U14, and U16 and boys singles U12, U14, U16, and U18, and mixed up doubles U12 and U18.

CNMI national player and SIS student Malika Miyawaki, who is organizing the tournament, said they are expecting between 45 and 50 tennis players to take part in the tournament, which will be held on Jan. 25 and 26.

The U12 girls are bannered by Irin Chung, Hoo Wang,

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A Saipan Vegas player double pumps a shot against AK Toyota's Don Brennan during their open division game in United Filipino Organization IT&E 2019 Basketball League last Sunday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Saipan Vegas, Old Iskool, Islander prevail

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in the United Filipino Organization IT&E 2019 Basketball League at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Saipan Vegas and Islander Rent A Car prevailed in the open division, while Old Iskool continued its winning run during last Sunday's playdates



In the first game, Islander Rent A Car improved to 5-2 in

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